



MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP **12¢**

# STRANGE TALES

**THE  
SENSATIONAL**

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

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OCT

IND.

## SUB-MARINER

TACKLES OUR TWO BATTLING BUDDIES!

*The*  
**HUMAN  
TORCH**

*and The  
Ever-Lovin'*

**THING!**



ONCE AGAIN, MARVEL'S  
MIGHTY HERO/VILLAIN  
JOINS OUR TWO JOLLY  
PLAYMATES FOR ANOTHER  
ROUND OF FUN 'N GAMES!

CO-FEATUREING



*The*  
**MYSTERIOUS  
DOCTOR  
STRANGE**



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### 2 LOADED TACKLE BOXES • 41 DEADLY LURES

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STRONGER THAN  
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OR BAMBOO

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**NEW! SUPER "88"**  
AUTOMATIC  
DUAL DRAG  
SPINCAST  
REEL

MADE BY  
FAMOUS  
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FIELD TESTED LURES  
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ALL TIME FAVORITES

**COMPLETE! NOTHING ELSE TO BUY!**

**SELECTED FOR YOU BY EXPERTS.** This choice fish-getting tackle, used by experts, contains nationally famous brands. Each item carefully chosen—everything you need for all types of fishing. Deadly lures that are all-time favorites. A veteran angler or an occasional fisherman can be proud of this precision-built kit. You can go fishing at once. Compare! You will not find a bargain like this anywhere.

**LOOK! YOU GET EVERYTHING SHOWN.** Super "88" Spincast Reel • Comet X3C Bait Cast Reel • Argosy Direct Drive Trolling Reel • 5 ft. 2 pc. Fiber Glass Spin Cast Rod • 4 ft. Fiber Glass Bait Cast Rod • 3½ ft. Fiber Glass Trolling Rod • 9 ft. 3 section Bamboo Pole and 25 ft. Bank Line • 41 proven Deadly Lures • 5 pc. Furnished Line • 2 Floating Tackle Boxes with removable trays • Fish Knife and Sheath • 28 pc. Popping Lure Kit • Dip Net, Stringer, Split Shot, Clincher Sinkers, Snap Swivels, Assorted Hooks, Snelled Hooks, Cork Bobbers, Popper Corks, and complete instructions. 411 pieces in all.

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# "THE SUB-MARINER MUST BE STOPPED!"

TRY TO  
SWAT ME  
WITH THAT  
ASBESTOS  
RUG, WILL YA?  
IT'S ABOUT  
TIME I SHOWED  
YOU WHO'S  
TOP MAN  
AROUND  
HERE!

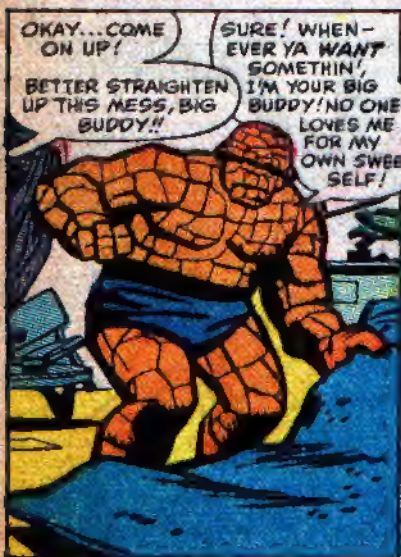
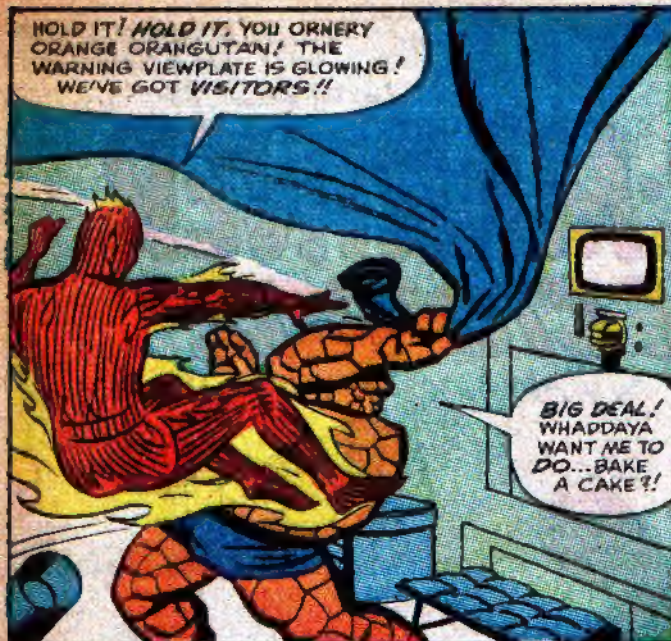
LET'S JOIN OUR TWO CALM, QUIET, BASH-  
FUL BUDDIES AS THEY SPEND A RELAXING  
AFTERNOON AT F.F. HEADQUARTERS  
ENGAGED IN THEIR USUAL CULTURAL  
PURSUITS...

TOP MAN?? YOU  
RED-FACED REFUGEE  
FROM A KINDER-  
GARTEN! I DON'T  
KNOW WHETHER TO  
CLOBBER YA OR  
GIVE YA A  
SPANKIN'!

ANOTHER MIGHTY  
MARVEL  
MISADVENTURE  
OF MAGNIFICENT  
MERRY MAYHEM!

WRITTEN BY WORD-SLINGIN'  
STAN LEE  
DRAWN BY PICTURE-SKETCHIN'  
DICK AYERS  
INKED BY INK-SPLATTERIN'  
PAUL REINMAN  
LETTERED BY PEN-PUSHIN'  
S. ROSEN









TRY TO MAKE A FOOL OUTTA ME, WILLYA?! WELL, RUBBERHEAD AND SUE AIN'T HERE NOW, AND AS FOR YOU---

I'LL GIVE YA TEN SECONDS FLAT TO GEDOUTTA-- HERE!!

NOW D-DON'T GET MAD! WE'RE GOING... WE'RE GOING!

WE DIDN'T MEAN TO OFFEND ANYONE!

AND NEXT TIME DON'T INTERRUPT A PERFECTLY GOOD FIGHT JUST FOR NOTHIN'!



IMAGINE THEM WANTIN' TO INTERVIEW SUE AND RUBBERLEGS INSTEAD OF US! I GOT A GOOD MIND TO...!!

COOL IT, PAL! IF YOU HAD A GOOD MIND, MAYBE YOU'D BE THE ONE THEY WANT!!



WELL, WELL! AIN'T YOU THE FUNNY MAN ALL OF A SUDDEN?!!

HEY! HOLD EVERYTHING! THERE'S A PICTURE COMIN' IN OVER OUR EMERGENCY ALARM TELE-SCANNER!!

AND LOOK WHO IT IS! IT'S WEB-HEAD...NAMOR, THE SUB-MARINER!



QUICKLY SWITCHING ON THEIR DEFENSE ALERT AUDIO RECEIVER, OUR BATTLING BUDDIES HEAR...

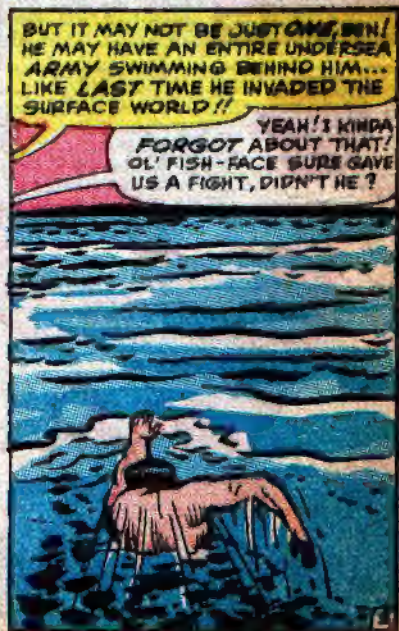
**WARNING! WARNING! ATTENTION!** ALL COASTAL DEFENSE UNITS! PRINCE NAMOR, THE SUB-MARINER, HAS BEEN SIGHTED SWIMMING TOWARDS NEW YORK HARBOR!



SINCE THE LAST DEFEAT OF HIS INVADING UNDERSEA FORCES\*, WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR HIS NEXT ATTACK! THIS MAY BE IT!

SOUNDS PRETTY SERIOUS, BEN!

AWW, WHAT HARM CAN ONE WATER-BREATHIN' FLAT-HEAD DO??

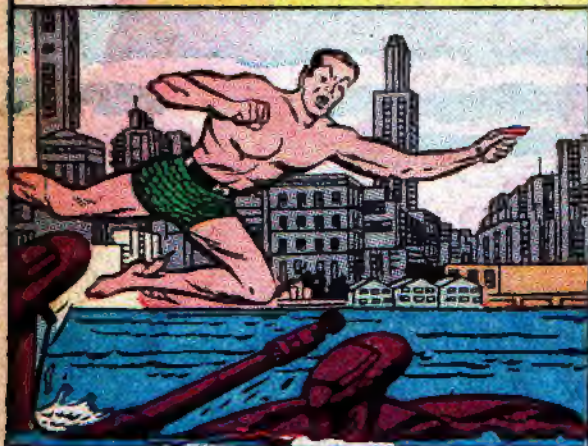


BUT IT MAY NOT BE JUST ONE, BEN! HE MAY HAVE AN ENTIRE UNDERSEA ARMY SWIMMING BEHIND HIM... LIKE LAST TIME HE INVADDED THE SURFACE WORLD!!

YEAH! I KINDA FORGOT ABOUT THAT! OL' FISH-FACE SURE GAVE US A FIGHT, DIDN'T HE?



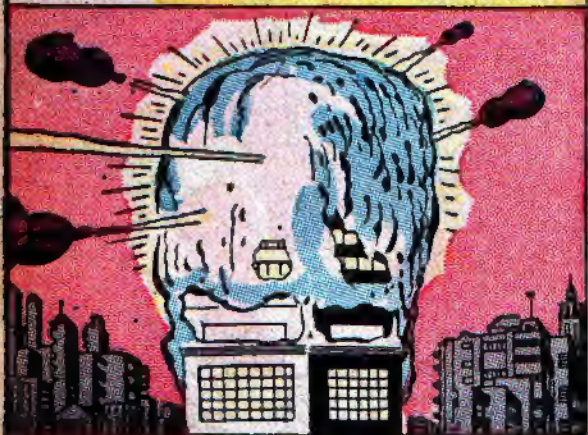
"I REMEMBER THAT NAMOR WAS THE FIRST ONE THAT WE SAW! NOBODY SUSPECTED HE WAS LEADING AN ENTIRE **INVASION ARMY** AT THE TIME! IT SURE WAS A SIGHT, SEEING HIM FLY AROUND WITH THOSE LITTLE WINGS ON HIS FEET!"



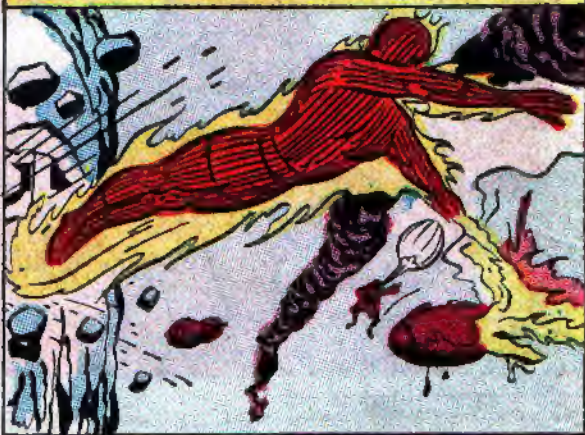
"I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW THOSE NUTTY GIZMOS CAN KEEP 'M UP IN THE AIR! ANYWAY, BEFORE WE KNEW IT, ALL THOSE BLUE-SKINNED YAHOO'S OF HIS WERE PILIN' ASHORE!"



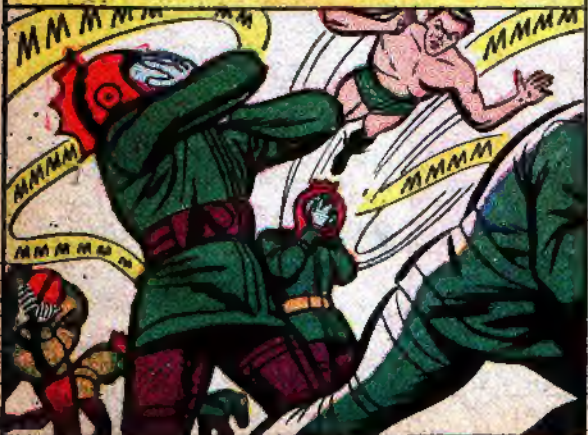
"AND REMEMBER HOW HE TOOK OVER THE TOP OF THE BAXTER BUILDING, LAUNCHING AN ATTACK RIGHT FROM OUR OWN HEADQUARTERS ?? I'VE GOTTA ADMIT I WAS A MIGHTY WORRIED HUMAN TORCH RIGHT AROUND THEN!"



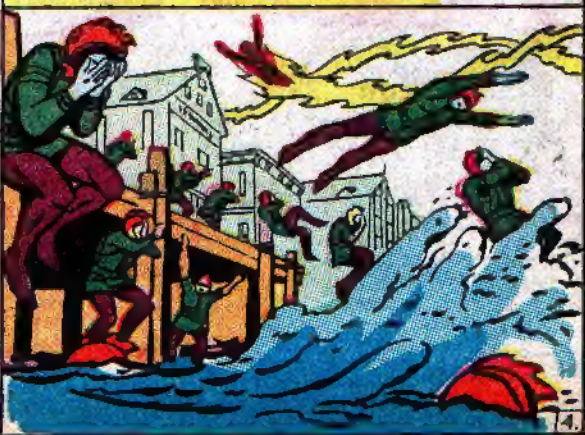
"YEAH? WELL, YOU DIDN'T DO SO BAD FOR A WORRIED KID! YOU TORE THROUGH THOSE PLANES OF HIS LIKE THEY WERE **NUTHIN'**... WHILE I WAS DOIN' THE **IMPORTANT FIGHTIN'** DOWN ON THE GROUND, OF COURSE!"



"AND THEN, JUST AS I WAS GETTIN' READY FOR CLOBBERIN' TIME, OL' KILL-JOY RICHARDS COOKED UP SOME DIZZY INVENTION THAT MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR NAMOR'S PLAY-MATES TO BREATHE IN THEIR HELMETS!"



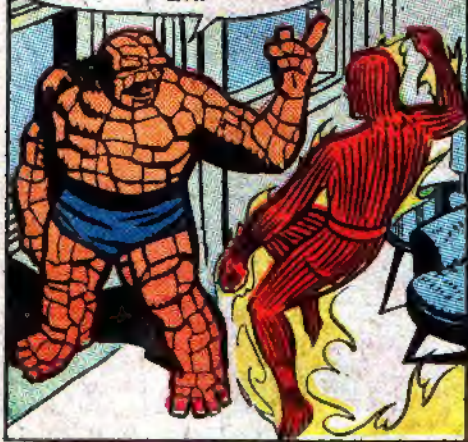
"YEP! AND THAT'S HOW IT ENDED! THEY ALL RACED BACK TO THE SEA AND HEADED FOR ATLANTIS, OR WHEREVER THEY CAME FROM! BUT NAMOR ALWAYS THREATENED TO RETURN, WITH A NEW INVASION... AND **THIS** MAY BE IT!"





WELL, I'D BETTER SEND UP A FLARE  
SIGNAL TO REED, SO THAT HE AND SUE  
CAN... HEY! WHAT'S WRONG?

FORGET THOSE TWO! THEY  
GET ENOUGH PUBLICITY!  
HERE'S OUR CHANCE TO SHOW  
WHAT WE CAN DO WITHOUT  
'EM!!



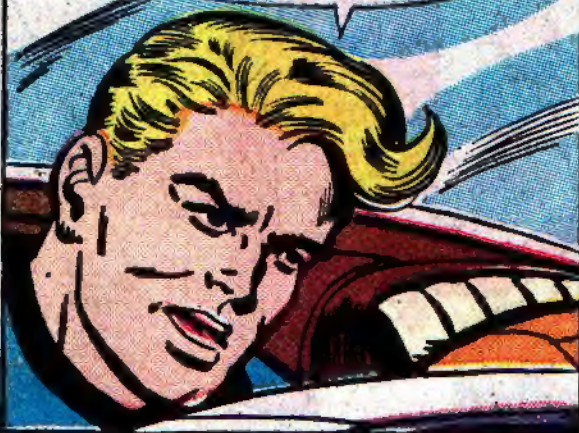
A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE F.F.'S FAMOUS U-CAR SPEEDILY  
SKIMS THE SURFACE OF THE SEA AS IT HEADS FOR THE SPOT  
WHERE THE SUB-MARINER LAST WAS SIGHTED!

FOR ONCE YOU'RE RIGHT, BIG BEN!  
THIS'LL SHOW THOSE TWO REPORTERS  
THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE INTERVIEWED US!

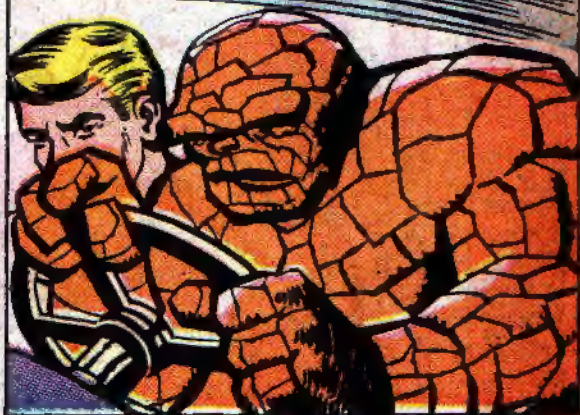
YEAH, I'VE BEEN ITCHIN' TO  
TANGLE WITH THAT WATER-  
LOGGED LOUDMOUTH FOR  
MONTHS! ALL I WANT IS ONE  
GOOD WHACK AT 'IM!



NOW LOOK, CHUM... NOBODY  
INVITED YOU TO HOG THE WHOLE  
SHOW! WE'LL GONNA FIGHT HIM  
TOGETHER, REMEMBER?

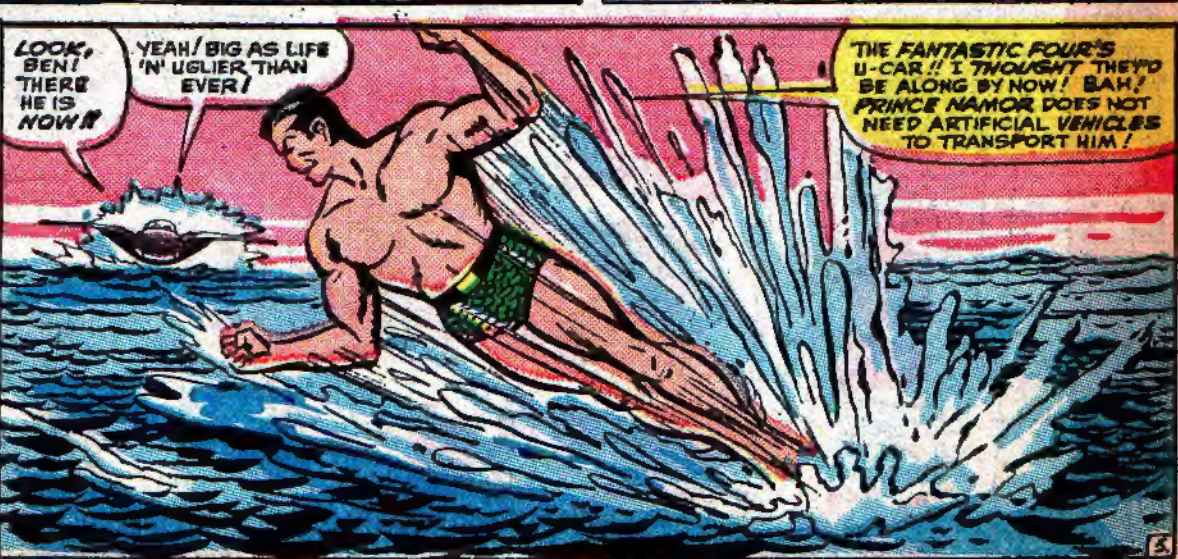


I'LL MAKE A DEAL WITH YA, JUNIOR!  
WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH 'IM, YOU CAN  
HAVE WHAT'S LEFT... IF YOU CAN FIND IT!



LOOK,  
BEN!  
THERE  
HE IS  
NOW!!

YEAH! BIG AS LIFE  
'N' UGLIER THAN  
EVER!

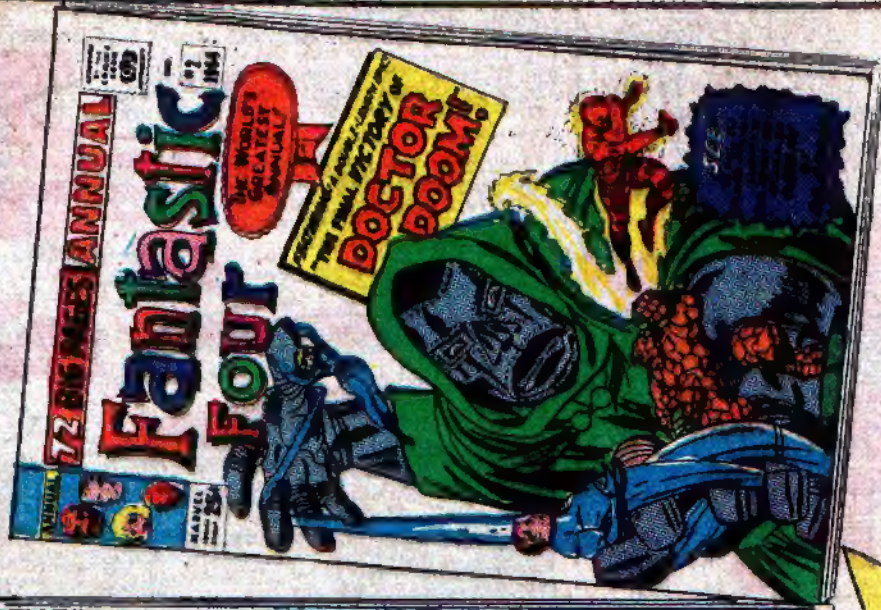
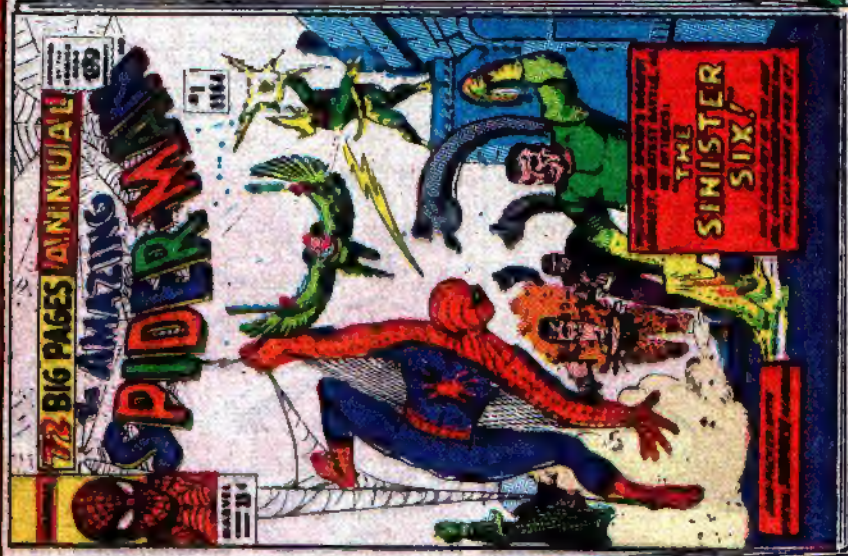


THE FANTASTIC FOUR'S  
U-CAR!! I THOUGHT THEY'D  
BE ALONG BY NOW! BAH!  
PRINCE NAMOR DOES NOT  
NEED ARTIFICIAL VEHICLES  
TO TRANSPORT HIM!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



**MORE TRIUMPHS FOR MARVEL...!**



**NOW ON SALE**





# BOYS! MEN! I'LL HELP YOU MASTER

# YUBIWAZA

— says N.J. FLEMING — YUBIWAZA MASTER

\*(YUBIWAZA IS THE SECRET, AMAZINGLY EASY ART OF SELF-DEFENSE THAT TURNS JUST ONE FINGER OR YOUR HANDS INTO A POTENT WEAPON OF DEFENSE—WITHOUT ANY BODILY CONTACT...)

In just 2 hours after you receive "YUBIWAZA" you will be on your way to being an invincible YubiWaza Master, at home, this Fast, EASY picture way or it costs you nothing.



WHAT YUBIWAZA CAN DO FOR YOU IN JUST A FEW SECONDS . . .

11:03 P.M.—You return from dance. Hoodlums throw insulting remarks to your date.

11:04 P.M.—They attack you with fists and bottles. You counterattack with YUBIWAZA.

11:04 P.M. PLUS 2 SECONDS—while every hoodlum is on the run.

The VITAL Decision is YOURS to make! Which shall it be? ☐ To play it "chicken" by running away? ☐ Be a "hothead" and be beaten up? Mail coupon now and be prepared with YubiWaza to send your attackers flying!

I'M A 3rd-DEGREE HOLDER OF THE BLACK BELT—SYMBOL OF HIGH PROFICIENCY IN THE JAPANESE SYSTEM OF SELF-DEFENSE THAT USES NO WEAPONS BUT BARE HANDS. I spent many years in Japan learning these little-known SECRETS. The most amazingly effective of all Self-Defense techniques that stood out in ALL my Japanese Training is contained in my AMAZING new YubiWaza book—all yours to have if you ACT NOW. YUBIWAZA is the name of a fantastic system of Self-Defense that makes use of an EASY-to-Learn knowledge of vital body areas and the techniques of the use of just ONE Finger or the entire hand to counteract & overcome ANY violent attack. It is commonly known that with the aid of YubiWaza, young men—and girls, too!—with only a few hours of training, torn back 1, 2 and even 4 attackers temporarily DISABLING ONE, putting another to flight, making a third howl with pain, while the fourth begged his opponent to stop!

## NOW YOU TOO CAN LEARN YUBIWAZA!

The experts in Japan, who know and teach these ONE-finger techniques, have now explained that YUBIWAZA is a centuries-old system of Self-Defense which is so simple and so effective that outsiders were never instructed in its use. The system was restricted to Japanese who SWORE to apply these methods only in time of danger and attack by an aggressor. Many of the very techniques in my YubiWaza book, once highly guarded secrets of the ancient Samurai warriors, never shown to outsiders are now shown to you—FIRST time!

EASY! And I am now ready to show you, too, through clear, easy-to-understand photos, every secret. I guarantee to make you a YUBIWAZA specialist in hours—or every cent you paid will be refunded. You don't have to attend my school where I train beginners like you and turn them into experts. Now I can show you how to practice YUBIWAZA in the privacy of your own home with only a few minutes of practice a day. I'll show you how to defend yourself against hoodlums, bullies, "wise guys" and juvenile delinquents who respect neither lives nor property.

When you apply YUBIWAZA methods, you can cut an aggressor down with JUST ONE FINGER! You can disarm an opponent, subdue him with his fist, a broken bottle, or revolver or any kind of bludgeon. You can turn an aggressor's attack into your advantage with only one finger or your bare hands. No matter how "hot" the action gets, YUBIWAZA keeps you "on top." You can easily simply pressure of your finger against any one of a dozen or more vital nerve centers of your opponent and watch his gun or knife fall from his limp hand while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint. If the neighborhood bully pushes you, you

"I WEIGH ONLY 98 LBS. — YET I CAN PARALYZE A 200 POUND ATTACKER WITH JUST A FINGER — BECAUSE I KNOW YUBIWAZA!"

says Yoshie Imanami,  
Pretty Japanese wife of N.J.  
Fleming — YubiWaza Master



can make him say "Uncle" quickly — with the help of YUBIWAZA!

## MASTER EVERY SITUATION!

Made to mistake! The world is crowded with anti-social enemies who think nothing of striking a knife into the ribs . . . or attacking peace-loving citizens just for the fun of it . . . or molesting boys and girls shamelessly. There is a crying need for a system of self-defense that relies on KNOWLEDGE, not big muscles or strength . . . that depends on TECHNIQUE—not on weight or size of body . . . that is based on simple TRAINING—not on illegal possession of weapons. When you know YUBIWAZA you can disarm and disable your opponent in seconds. You can repel a mugger who grabs you from behind—no matter how big he is or how much he weighs. Instantly you know WHERE to attack, and how. You learn the body's most vulnerable regions, the defense or vengeance position to take, and your body's personal weapons which you can apply in maximum advantage. I have jam-packed all I know about YUBIWAZA into my Guide, which I have profusely illustrated and clearly explained. I take you step by step through the fundamentals of this amazing system so that you understand clearly and immediately how these effective principles work. You learn these vital used by marines, police and G-men . . . how to fear any bully . . . how to teach what gets that will make any attacker helpless. No matter whether you are big or small, strong or weak, you can overpower practically any opponent with lightning speed!

## BECOME A NEW MAN!

Knowledge of YUBIWAZA will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never actually learn to use it. For you will become SELF-ASSURED through your ability to handle your self. You will walk with a deter-

mined and confident air secure with the knowledge that NOTHING can frighten you . . . that you can deal with ANY man, ANY weapon, ANY situation—and that you can do all this with NO bodily contact! And you will win respect and admiration from everyone.

Thousands of men of all ages have won confidence and respect by learning YUBIWAZA. YOU can do the same! You owe it to your own peace of mind . . . to your friends and loved ones to be able to defend yourself in those days when attack may come at any time and place from hoodlums, criminals and delinquents. So mail Coupon NOW for my COMPLETE instruction on YUBIWAZA. If you and your friends don't say that YUBIWAZA has made a NEW MAN out of you, every cent will be refunded!

## TWO FREE GIFTS!

If you order now, I'll include with-out extra charge 2 free gifts: your personal copy of HOW TO EASILY OVERCOME AND MASTER AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX, BASHFULNESS AND SHYNESS—plus—HOW TO DO STRONG-MAN STUNTS WITH EASE. And if you order promptly, I'll also include without extra charge your personal Membership Card in the American YubiWaza Federation.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE  
**COMPLETE \$1.98**  
YOU PAY ONLY  
Nothing Else To Buy  
PACKED WITH PHOTOS  
AND ILLUSTRATIONS  
BY N.J. FLEMING  
AND HIS WIFE  
YOSHIE

YUBIWAZA SYSTEM, DEPT. Y-92, 285 Market St. NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

**FREE WITH YOUR ORDER — THESE 2 THRILLING AND USEFUL GIFTS!**



**"HOW TO EASILY OVERCOME AND MASTER INFERIORITY COMPLEX, BASHFULNESS, SHYNESS"**

Yellow—did you know that you have unexplored resources within your personality—resources that can help you change in life? You CAN win more girl and boy friends! If YOUR personality is being smothered by an inferiority complex, or if you are bashful or shy—then you MUST read this amazing new Guide to overcoming these handicaps. You learn how to make the "right" approach . . . what to say and how to act . . . plus how to break the ice most valuable hint!



**"HOW TO DO STRONG-MAN STUNTS WITH EASE"**

Would you like to know how to tear a woman's hair in HALF . . . or break bricks barehanded using very little strength . . . or to split a plank by using breath, mind and strength? How about splitting a bottle cap in half? YOU CAN DO ALL OF THIS—if you know the secret. And the secret is NOT brute strength—but technique! Your personal copy of HOW TO DO STRONG-MAN STUNTS WITH EASE will show you exactly how each trick is performed and CANNOT NOW!

MAIL MONEY SAVING, NO RISK FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

YUBIWAZA SYSTEM, DEPT. Y-92  
285 Market St., NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

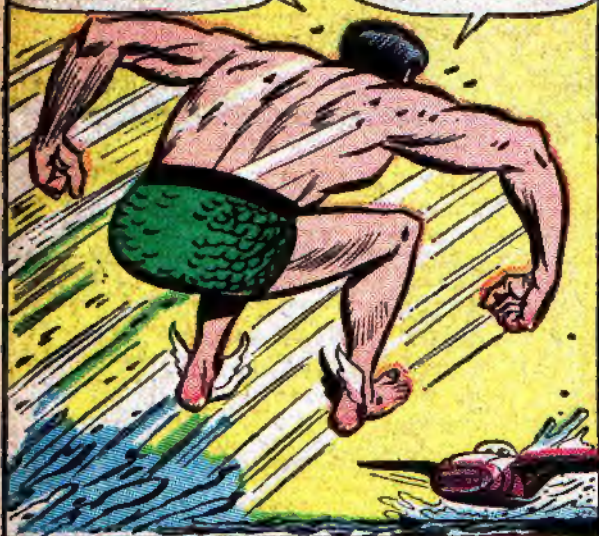
Rush your complete YUBIWAZA Program in plain wrapper. I enclose \$1.98 as payment in full—nothing more to buy. My friends and I must be delighted with my amazing new YUBIWAZA power, or you will refund my money in full. Inside my FREE gift with YUBIWAZA—my personal copy of HOW TO EASILY OVERCOME AND MASTER AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX, BASHFULNESS AND SHYNESS AND HOW TO DO STRONG-MAN STUNTS WITH EASE.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

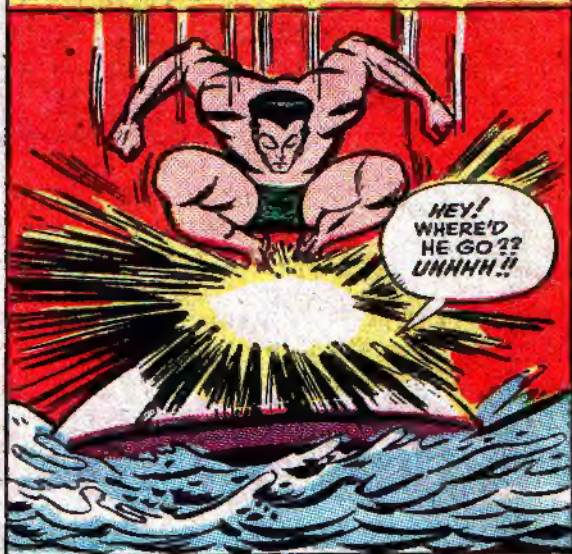


THEY'RE NOT SLOWING DOWN! THEY'RE HEADING RIGHT TOWARDS ME AT ATTACK VELOCITY!

WELL, THEY SHALL LEARN THAT THE SUB-MARINER IS NO MERE SITTING TARGET!

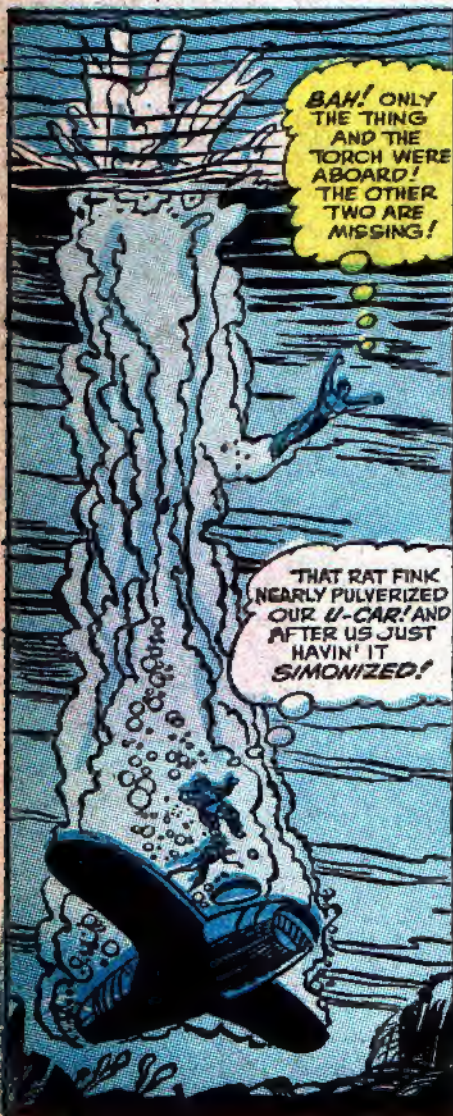


STRIKING SWIFTLY, WITH THE SPEED OF A THUNDER-BOLT, THE MONARCH OF THE SEA PLUMMETS DOWN UPON THE SPEEDING CRAFT...



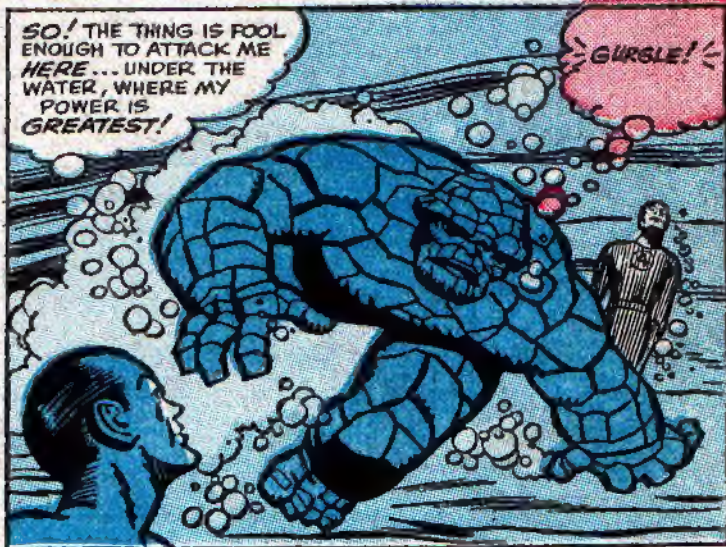
BAH! ONLY THE THING AND THE TORCH WERE ABOARD! THE OTHER TWO ARE MISSING!

THAT RAT FINK NEARLY PULVERIZED OUR U-CAR! AND AFTER US JUST HAVIN' IT SIMONIZED!

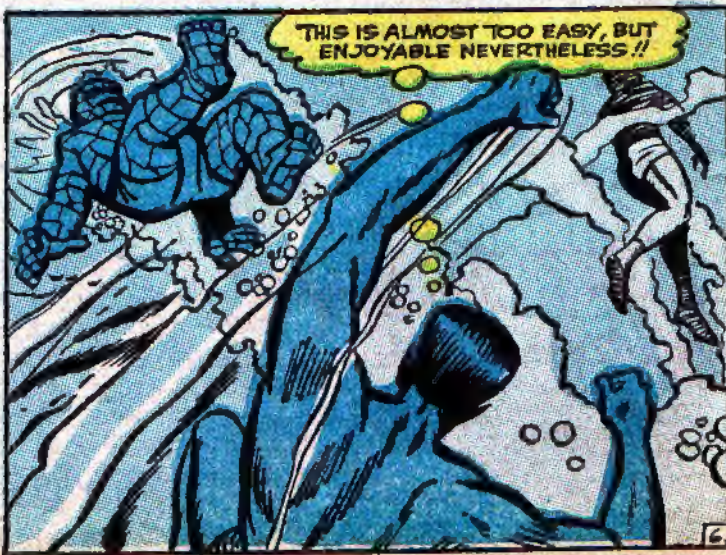


SO! THE THING IS FOOL ENOUGH TO ATTACK ME HERE... UNDER THE WATER, WHERE MY POWER IS GREATEST!

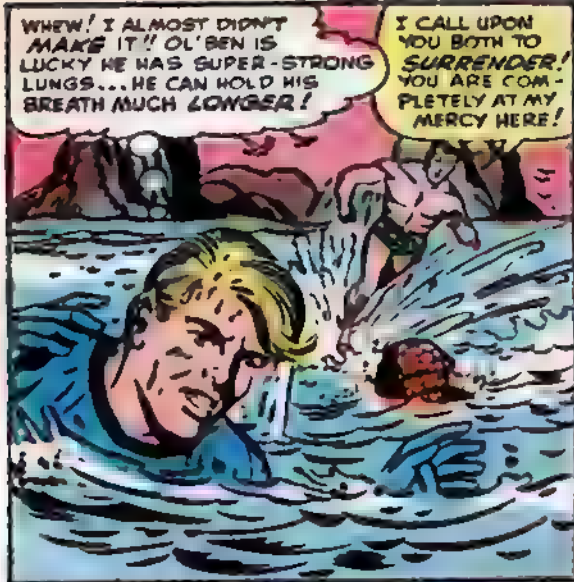
GURGLE!



THIS IS ALMOST TOO EASY, BUT ENJOYABLE NEVERTHELESS!!





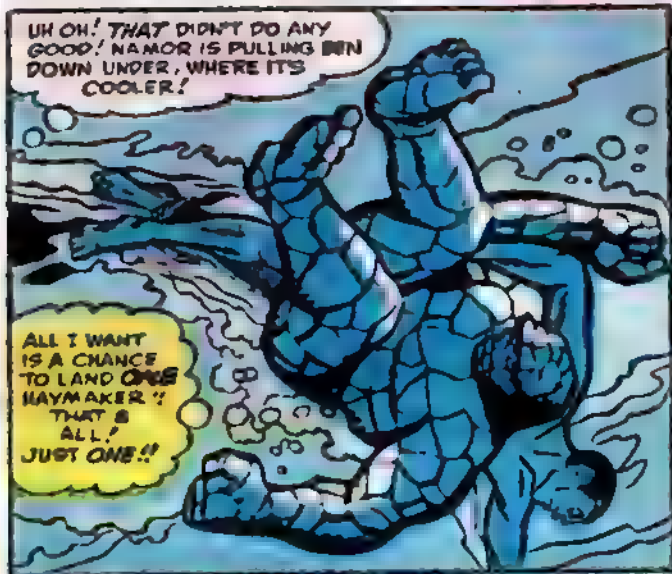


WHOW! I ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT!! OL' BEN IS LUCKY HE WAS SUPER-STRONG LUNGS... HE CAN HOLD HIS BREATH MUCH LONGER!

I CALL UPON YOU BOTH TO SURRENDER! YOU ARE COMPLETELY AT MY MERCY HERE!

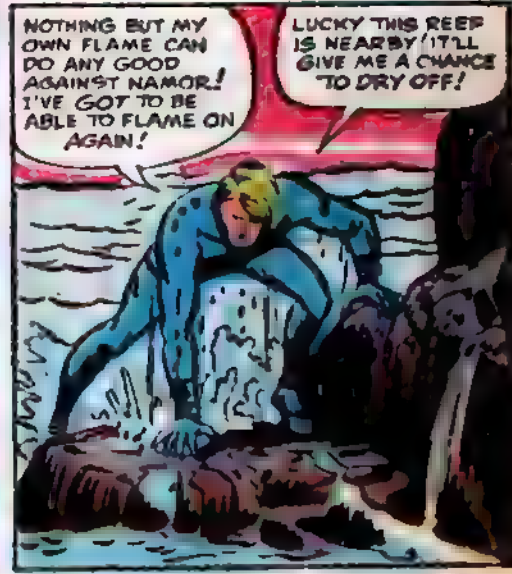


SURRENDER, MY FOOT! I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO FLAME ON HERE, BUT I CAN STILL MAKE MY BODY HOT ENOUGH TO STEAM UP THE WATER ALL AROUND ME!



UH OH! THAT DIDN'T DO ANY GOOD! NAMOR IS PULLING BEN DOWN UNDER, WHERE IT'S COOLER!

ALL I WANT IS A CHANCE TO LAND ONE HAYMAKER!! THAT'S ALL! JUST ONE!!

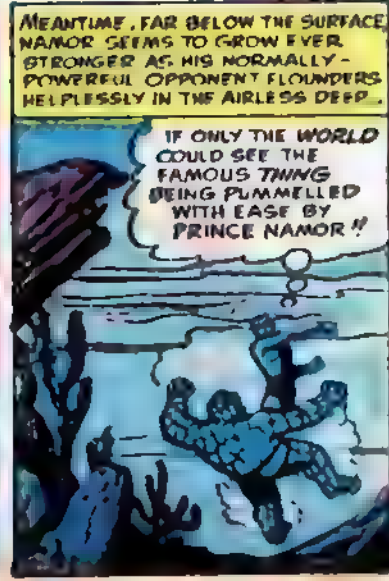


NOTHING BUT MY OWN FLAME CAN DO ANY GOOD AGAINST NAMOR! I'VE GOT TO BE ABLE TO FLAME ON AGAIN!

LUCKY THIS REEF IS NEARBY! IT'LL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO DRY OFF!

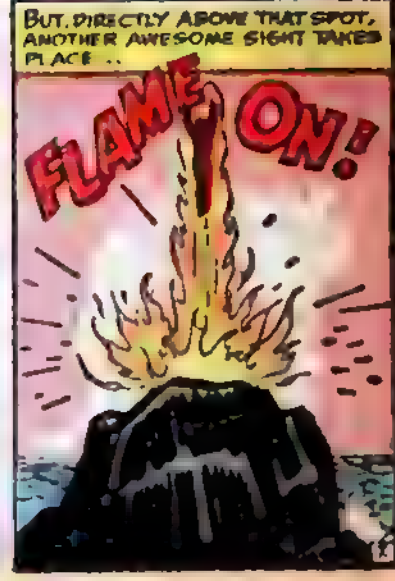


IT SHOULDN'T TAKE TOO LONG! THE SUN IS BLAZING HOT, AND MY OWN NATURAL BODY HEAT IS HELPING, TOO!



MEANTIME, FAR BELOW THE SURFACE NAMOR SEEMS TO GROW EVER STRONGER AS HIS NORMALLY-POWERFUL OPPONENT FLOUNDERS HELPLESSLY IN THE AIRLESS DEEP.

IF ONLY THE WORLD COULD SEE THE FAMOUS THING BEING PUMMELLED WITH EASE BY PRINCE NAMOR!!

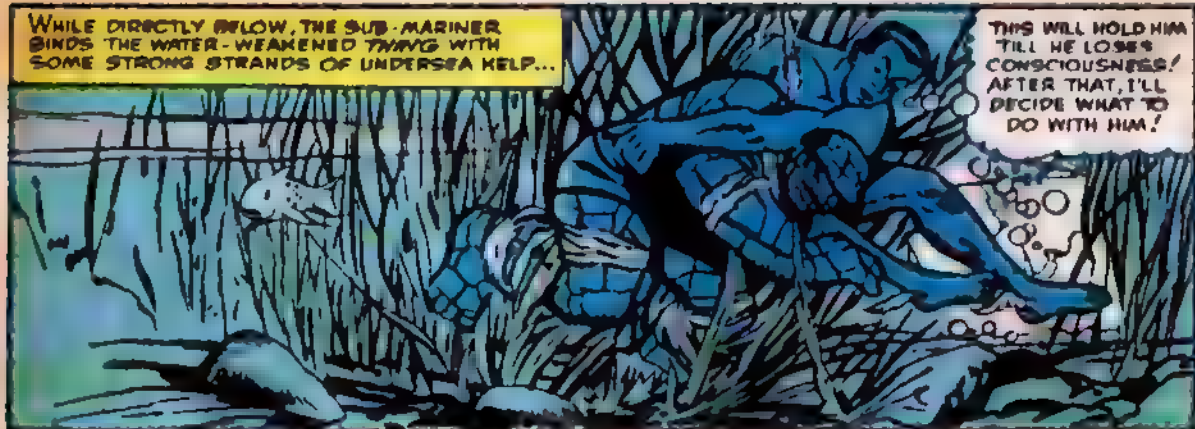


BUT, DIRECTLY ABOVE THAT SPOT, ANOTHER AWESOME SIGHT TAKES PLACE...

FLAME ON!



WHILE DIRECTLY BELOW, THE SUB-MARINER BINDS THE WATER-WEAKENED THING WITH SOME STRONG STRANDS OF UNDERSEA Kelp...



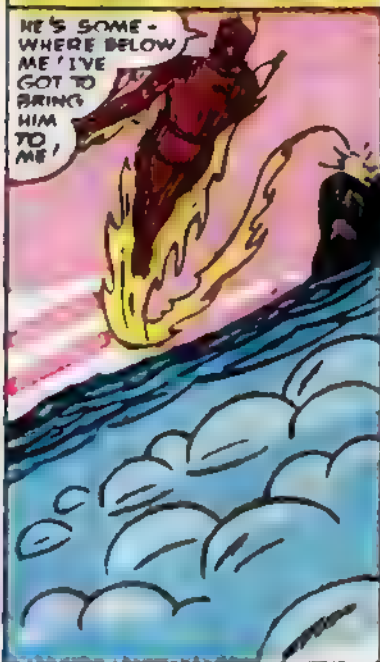
THIS WILL HOLD HIM TILL HE LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS! AFTER THAT, I'LL DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH HIM!

IT'S GOOD TO BE IN BATTLE AGAIN! THIS IS THE EXISTENCE I WAS DESTINED FOR! AND NOW FOR THE TORCH!!



BUT, BEFORE PRINCE NAMOR CAN REACH THE SURFACE...

HE'S SOMEWHERE BELOW ME! I'VE GOT TO BRING HIM TO ME!

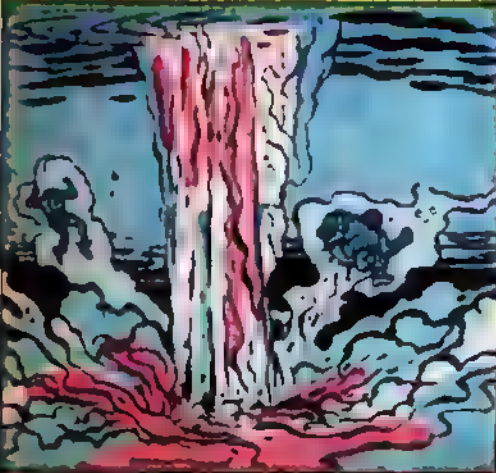


AND THIS IS ONE SURE WAY TO DO IT!

I'LL SEND A GEYSER OF HEAT SURGING DOWN TO HIM!

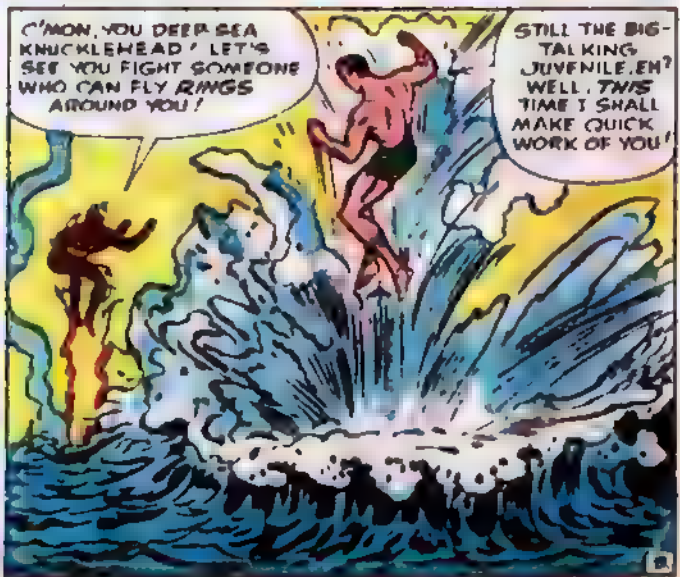


SO INTENSE IS THE BOILING HEAT BEAM THAT IT VIRTUALLY COOKS THE KELP MAKING IT SOFT AS SPAGHETTI, ENABLING THE THING TO ROB TO THE SURFACE!



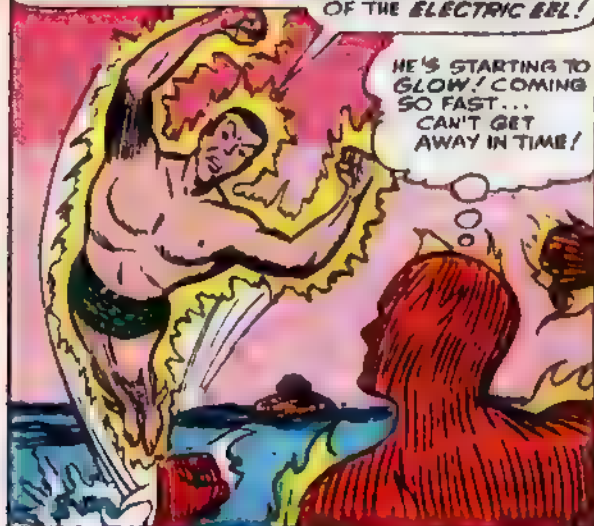
O'MON, YOU DEEP SEA KNUCKLEHEAD! LET'S SEE YOU FIGHT SOMEONE WHO CAN FLY RINGS AROUND YOU!

STILL THE BIG-TALKING JUVENILE, EH? WELL, THIS TIME I SHALL MAKE QUICK WORK OF YOU!



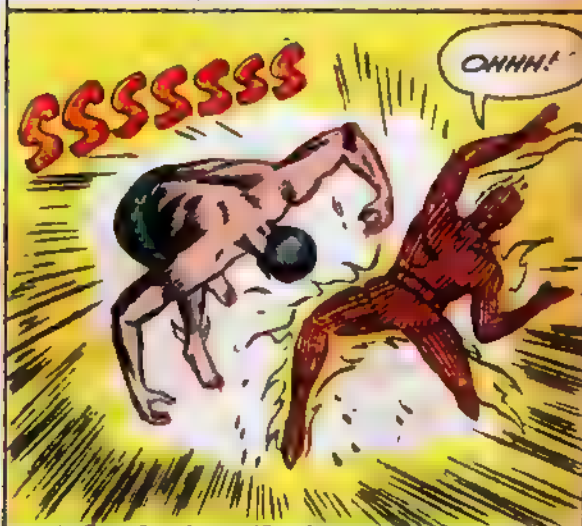


I SEE YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN ONE OF MY MANY POWERS... THE POWER TO DUPLICATE THE ATTACK OF THE ELECTRIC EEL!



HE'S STARTING TO GLOW! COMING SO FAST... CAN'T GET AWAY IN TIME!

THEN, BEFORE THE STARTLED TORCH CAN MAKE ANOTHER MOVE, NAMOR STRIKES...

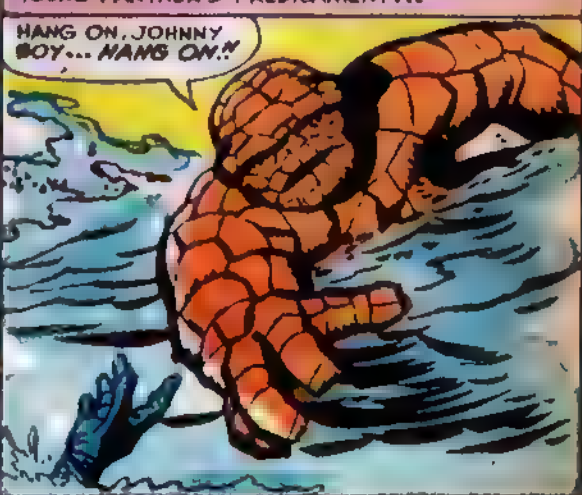


OWHHH!

MOMENTARILY STUNNED BY THE ELECTRICAL IMPACT, HIS FLAME GOES OUT, AND THE VALIANT TEEN-AGER BEGINS TO PLUNGE DOWNWARD...



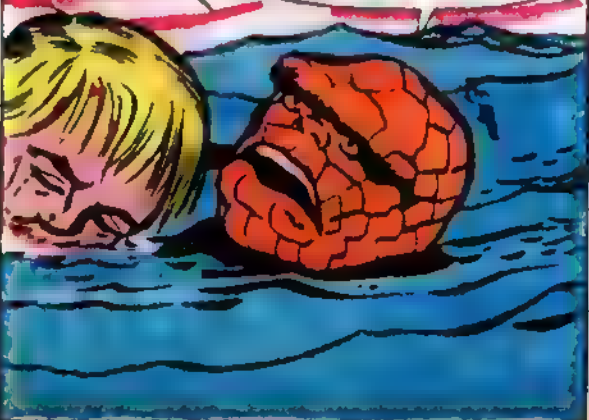
BUT, BY NOW THE THING HAS RECOVERED HIS ALMOST LIMITLESS STRENGTH, AND, SEEING HIS YOUNG PARTNER'S PREDICAMENT...



HANG ON, JOHNNY BOY... HANG ON!!

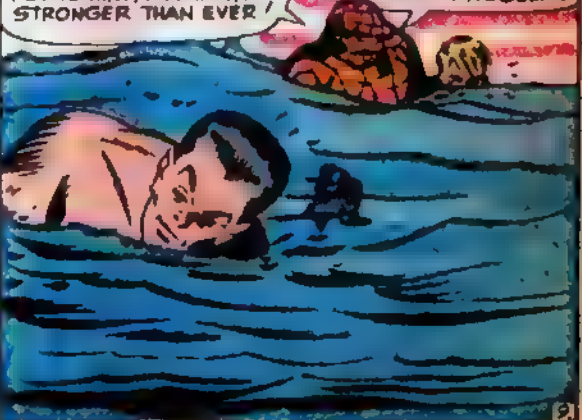
THE KID'S OUT... BUT HE'S STILL BREATHIN'!

THAT'S LUCKY FOR NAMOR! IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO THE TORCH, THERE WOULDN'T BE A SPOT IN THE OCEAN DEEP ENOUGH FOR FISH-FACE TO HIDE FROM ME!



THERE'S NAMOR... HALF CONSCIOUS HIMSELF! THAT ELECTRIC SHOCK MUSTA WEAKENED HIM, TOO! BUT IF I LEAVE HIM HERE, THE WATER'LL REVIVE HIM, MAKIN HIM STRONGER THAN EVER!

I'VE GOT TO FIGGER OUT SOME WAY TO GET HIM AND JOHNNY BACK TO THE REEF! AS DEAR OL' AUNT PETUNIA WOULD SAY: "BENJAMIN, YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM!"





I BETTER NOT WASTE TOO MUCH TIME 'IF THERE'S AN INVADIN' ARMY FOLLOWIN' NAMOR, THEY CAN'T BE FAR BEHIND BY NOW!



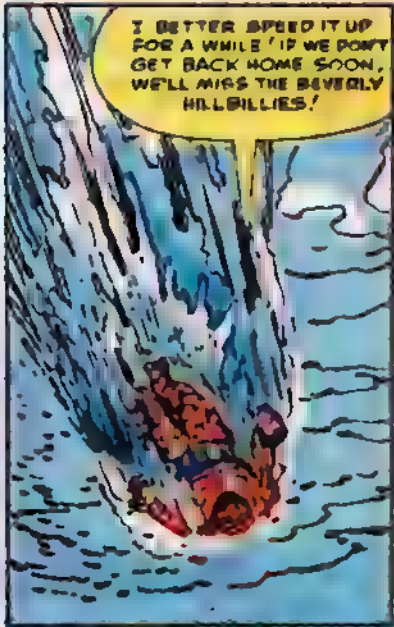
WELL, THE ONLY THING TO DO IS TO HOLD ONE IN EACH PAW AND KICK MYSELF BACK TO THE REEF!



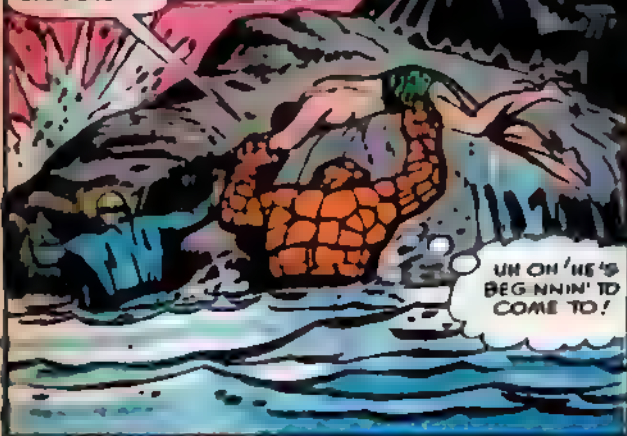
THE SOUL OF MODESTY, MY PANTIN' PUBLIC OUGHTTA KNOW ABOUT THIS!

TOO BAD THERE AIN'T ANY NEWS-REEL CAMERAS AROUND 'EVEN THOUGH I'M

I BETTER SPEED IT UP FOR A WHILE 'IF WE DON'T GET BACK HOME SOON, WE'LL MISS THE BEVERLY HILLBILLIES!



I'LL LEAVE FLATHEAD THERE TO DRY OUT FOR A WHILE 'I WOULDN'T WANNA TAKE 'IM HOME SOAKIN' WET HE MIGHT RUIN THE CARPETS!



UH OH 'HE'S BEGINNIN' TO COME TO!

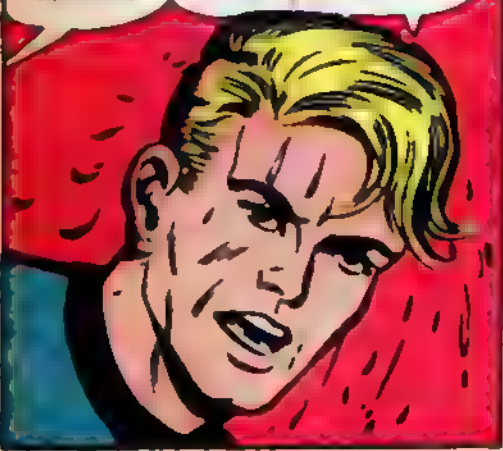
AND, SO, JUST A VERY FEW SECONDS LATER...

OKAY, NAMOR.. SEND YOUR INVADIN' ARMY PACKIN' IF YOU WANNA LEAVE HERE IN ONE PIECE!



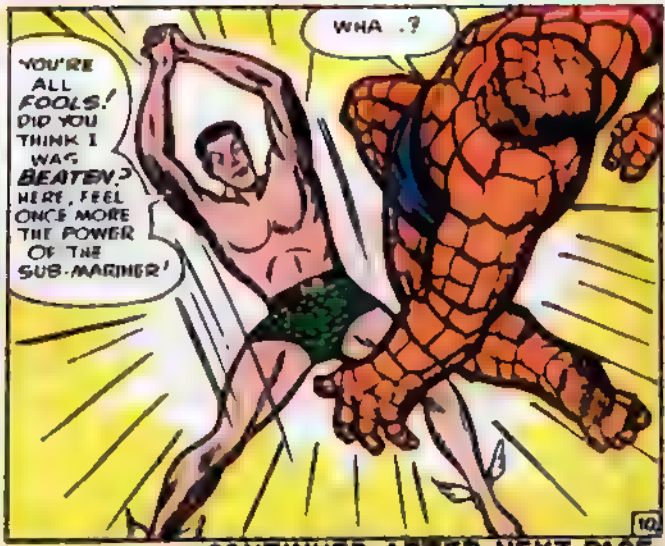
WHAT ARMY WERE YOU REFERRING TO, THING?

DO NOT GET CUTE WITH US, NAMOR! YOU KNOW THERE'S AN INVADING ARMY FOLLOWING YOU!



YOU'RE ALL FOOLS! DID YOU THINK I WAS BEATEN? HERE, FEEL ONCE MORE THE POWER OF THE SUB-MARINER!

WHA..?



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



# PLAY 1964 BIG LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES

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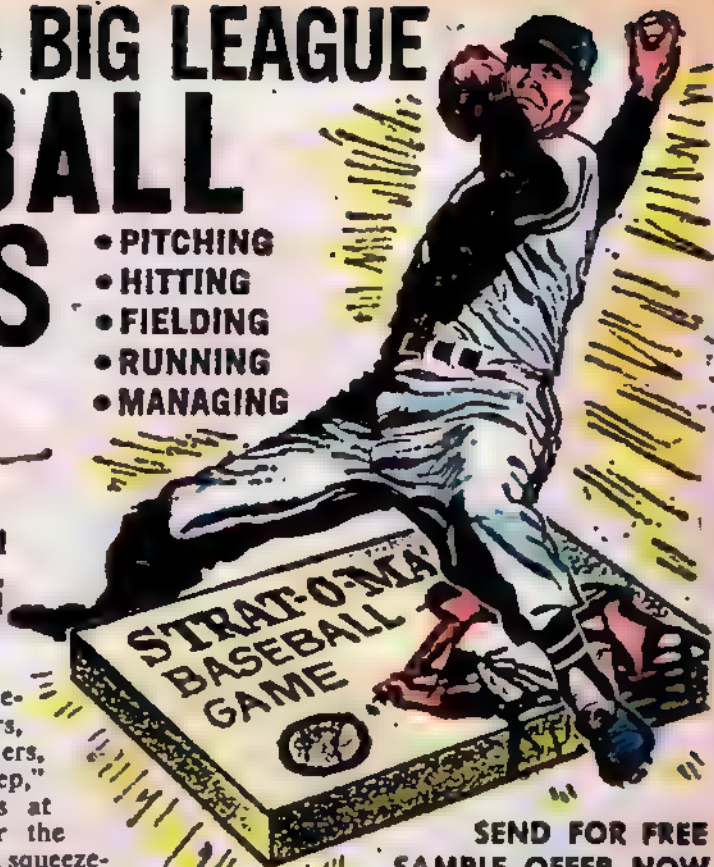
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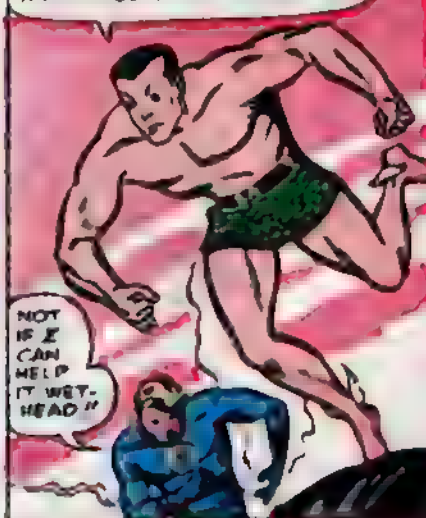


THERE! BACK INTO THE SEA WITH YOU, YOU LUMBERING OAF! AND THIS TIME I'LL MAKE SURE YOU REMAIN!



DON'T COUNT ON IT, BUTTERCUP! JUST 'CAUSE YA CAUGHT ME OFF BALANCE THIS ONCE DON'T MEAN I'M LICKED!

I'M AWARE THAT MY BLOWS CAUSE YOU NO HARM HERE ON THE SURFACE! BUT, ONCE WE'RE IN THE WATER AGAIN MY POWER WILL BE MAGNIFIED MANY TIMES...



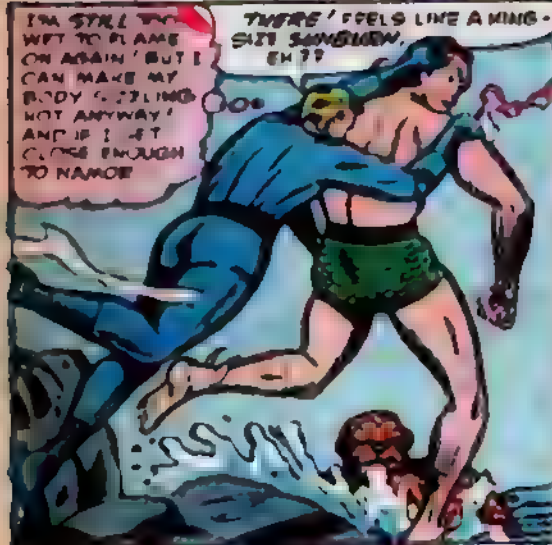
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT WET-HEAD!

YOU THINK YOU CAN BEAT US BECAUSE YOU'RE AMPHIBIOUS? BUT YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER THINK COMIN'! NOBODY GIVES MY ORANGE-SKINNED BUDDY A DINKIN' WITHOUT ANSWERIN' TO ME!!



I'M STILL TOO WET TO FLAME ON AGAIN! BUT I CAN MAKE MY BODY FEELING HOT ANYWAY! AND IF I GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO NAMOR...

THERE! FEELS LIKE A KING-SIZE SANDWICH, EH??

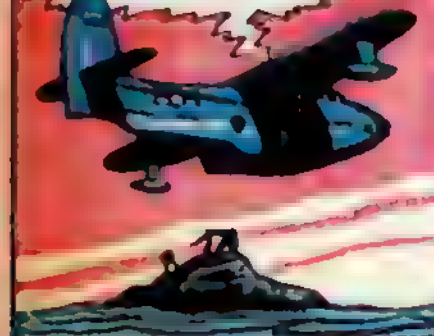


MUCH OBLIGED, LITTLE BUDDY! NOW, IF YOU'LL JUST STEP ASIDE, IT'S GETTIN' CLOSE TO CLOBBERIN' TIME!!



BUT AT THAT MOMENT A COAST GUARD PATROL PLANE ORBITS THE THREE COMBATANTS, AND IMMEDIATELY RADIOS A REPORT TO THE MAINLAND:

SUB-MARINER SIGHTED! BATTLING ON REEF WITH THING AND HUMAN TORCH! EXACT LOCATION IS AS FOLLOWS...



AND HAVING RETURNED TO F.F. HEADQUARTERS BY NOW, REED AND SUE HEAR THE STARTLING NEWS:

OH, REED! IF JOHNNY AND BEN ARE FIGHTING NAMOR AT SEA, HE HAS ALL THE ADVANTAGES!

I KNOW, SUE! HEAD FOR THE ROOF TOP HANGAR! WE'RE GOING AFTER THEM!



WITHIN SECONDS, ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST WIDELY KNOWN AIRCRAFT CAN BE SEEN GLISTENING WINGING TOWARDS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN...

WHY DIDN'T THEY NOTIFY US THAT THEY WERE GOING TO FIGHT THE SUB-MARINER?

I DON'T KNOW, HONEY - BUT I'M SURE GOING TO FIND OUT!





FLYING AT MAXIMUM SPEED, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF SECONDS BEFORE THE AMAZING CRAFT LEAVES THE SHORELINE FAR BEHIND...

REED, DO YOU THINK THAT...?

QUIET, SUE! I'VE GOT TO CONCENTRATE ON MY NAVIGATION SO WE DON'T OVER-SHOOT OUR MARK!

IF...IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO BEN... OR MY BROTHER JOHNNY...

DON'T SAY IT, HONEY! THOSE TWO ARE BOTH BATTLE-TRAINED! THEY KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES!

AND THEN... SCANT MOMENTS LATER...

LOOK! DOWN BELOW! IT'S THEM!

BEN, LOOK! THE FANTASTICAR! THEY FOUND US!!

WELL, AIN'T THAT GINGER PEACHY?! I WAS ABOUT TO PLANT MY HAYMAKER ON NAMOR... AND I'M NOT STOPPIN' NOW!

**BAROOM!**

HEY! WHERE'D HE GO?!

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR LOOKING AT THE PLANE BEFORE YOU BELTED HIM! HE DOVE INTO THE SEA!

JUST LIKE I ALWAYS SAID! HE'S SCARED STIFF OF ME!

BUT IT IS NOT FEAR THAT CAUSES THE POWERFUL SUB-MARINER TO LEAVE THE SCENE... FOR THE PROUD PRINCE NAMOR FEARS NOTHING THAT LIVES!

NO, IT IS SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT THAT DRIVES HIM OFF...

HE LIED TO ME! AND A PRINCE OF THE BLOOD, OF THE KINGDOM OF ATLANTIS, CAN NEVER TOLERATE A LIE!!

WHAT LIE IS NAMOR REFERRING TO?? AND HOW DOES THAT AFFECT OUR TALE? WE SHALL LEARN THE ANSWERS ON THE NEXT PAGE...



JOHNNY! BEN!  
WHY DID YOU  
TACKLE NAMOR  
ALONE... WITHOUT  
NOTIFYING US??

HECK! WE AIN'T KIDS,  
MISTER! WE WANTED TO  
PROVE WE COULD BEAT  
'IM BY OURSELVES!!

AND WE  
ALMOST  
DID, TOO!

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOU DID!! YOU  
JUST RUINED A PROJECT I'VE BEEN  
WORKING ON FOR WEEKS! NAMOR  
WASN'T PLANNING ANY TROUBLE! HE  
HAD NO ARMY FOLLOWING HIM! HE  
WAS COMING TO MEET ME!!

YOU!!!

THAT'S RIGHT! I FINALLY CONVINCED HIM TO  
COME TO OUR HEADQUARTERS ALONE, AND TALK  
PEACE WITH US! BUT NOW, HE'LL NEVER  
BELIEVE IT WASN'T A TRAP! WE'VE  
LOST OUR CHANCE!

AWWWW,  
NO!!

AND THOSE REPORTERS YOU DROVE OFF!  
THEY ONLY WANTED TO INTERVIEW SUE AND ME  
BECAUSE THEY WERE WRITING AN ARTICLE  
ABOUT YOU TWO, AND THEY WANTED IT TO BE  
A SURPRISE... BUT THEY'LL PROBABLY NEVER  
RETURN!

AND WE  
THOUGHT  
WE WERE  
BEING SO  
CLEVER!!

THEN, AS THE FABULOUS FOURLSOME READ FOR HOME, A SILENT BROODING HEAD LIFTS OUT OF THE WATER  
AND WATCHES THEM DEPART...

THEY TRIED TO DECEIVE  
ME! I WAS LUCKY TO  
ESCAPE SO EASILY! BUT  
THEY WILL NEVER GET  
ANOTHER CHANCE TO BETRAY  
MY TRUST! NEXT TIME WE MEET,  
IT SHALL BE A BATTLE  
TO THE FINISH!!

THE END

WHICH JUST GOES TO PROVE THAT IT IS SOMETIMES POSSIBLE TO BE TOO CLEVER, EVEN  
IF YOU AND YOUR BUDDY ARE "THE IDOLS OF MILLIONS"! ANYWAY, THE GANG HERE AT  
THE BULLPEN IS ALL EXCITED ABOUT OUR NEXT BIG TORCH/THING ADVENTURE--SO, TO  
SEE WHAT'S COOKING, DON'T MISS THE GREAT #126 15H OF STRANGE TALES!  
AND NOW, IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER ADVENTURE IN BLACK MAGIC READY? OKAY--LET'S GO--



# Come On, Fella

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and  
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Send my first bundle of papers, selling helps and prize offers.

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In Care of \_\_\_\_\_

Street and No. \_\_\_\_\_ R. F. D. \_\_\_\_\_

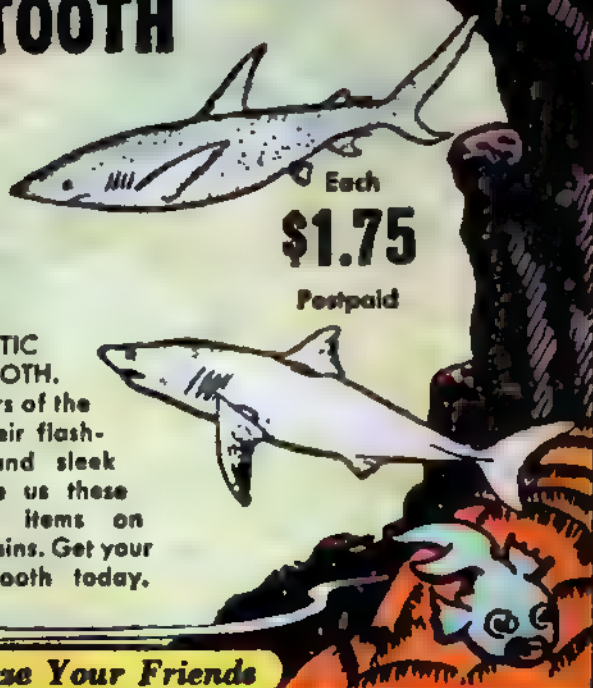
Post Office \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Print Your  
Last Name  
Plainly Here

Zip Code No. ....

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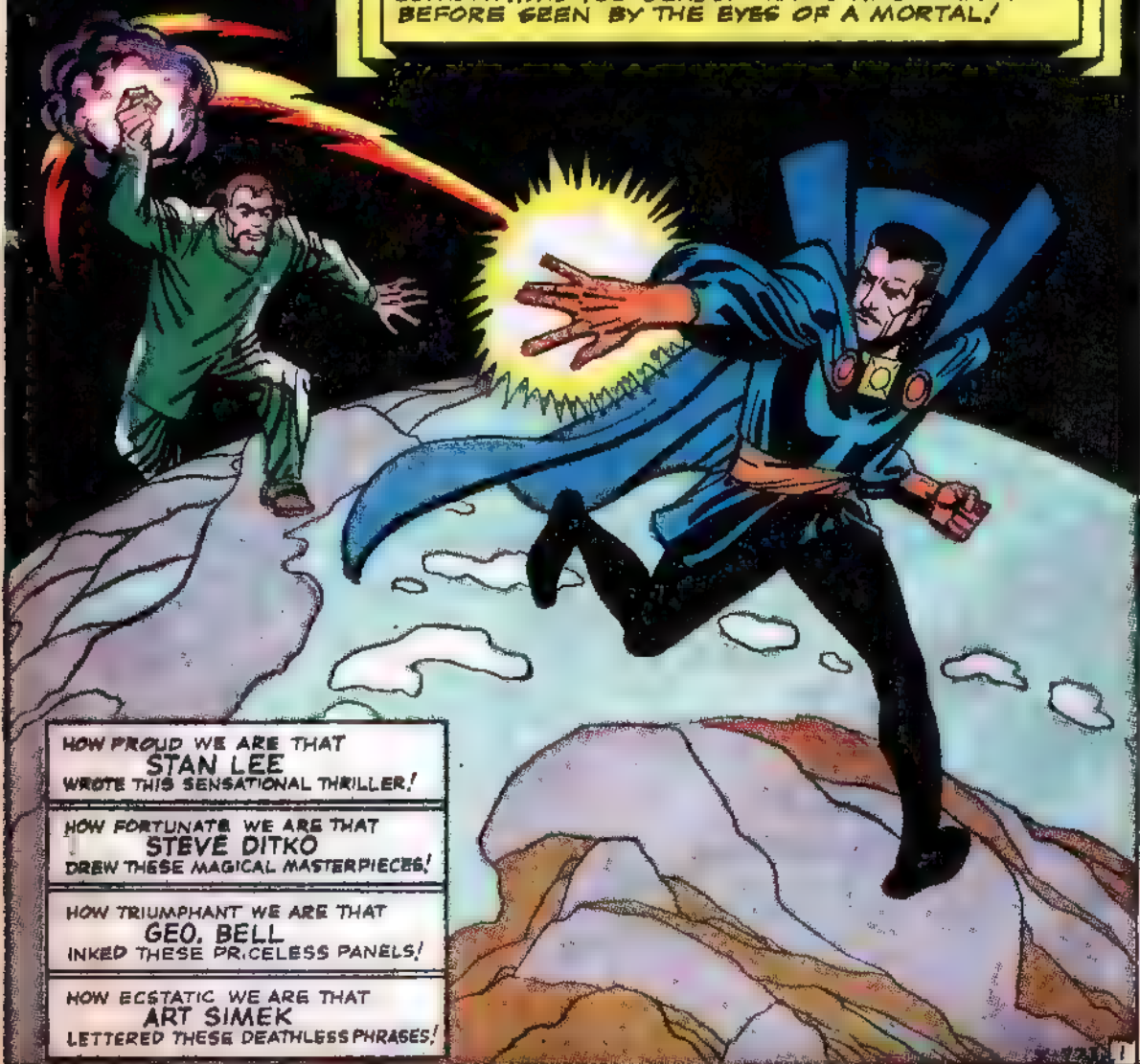


# Dr. STRANGE

MASTER  
OF THE  
MYSTIC ARTS!

## MORDO MUST NOT CATCH ME!

YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS ONE OF THE MOST INCREDIBLE BATTLES EVER FOUGHT! THE WORLD'S TWO GREATEST PRACTITIONERS OF THE NEARLY LOST ART OF BLACK MAGIC MEET IN MORTAL COMBAT... AS YOU BEHOLD MAGIC RITES NEVER BEFORE SEEN BY THE EYES OF A MORTAL!



HOW PROUD WE ARE THAT  
**STAN LEE**  
WROTE THIS SENSATIONAL THRILLER!

HOW FORTUNATE WE ARE THAT  
**STEVE DITKO**  
DREW THESE MAGICAL MASTERPIECES!

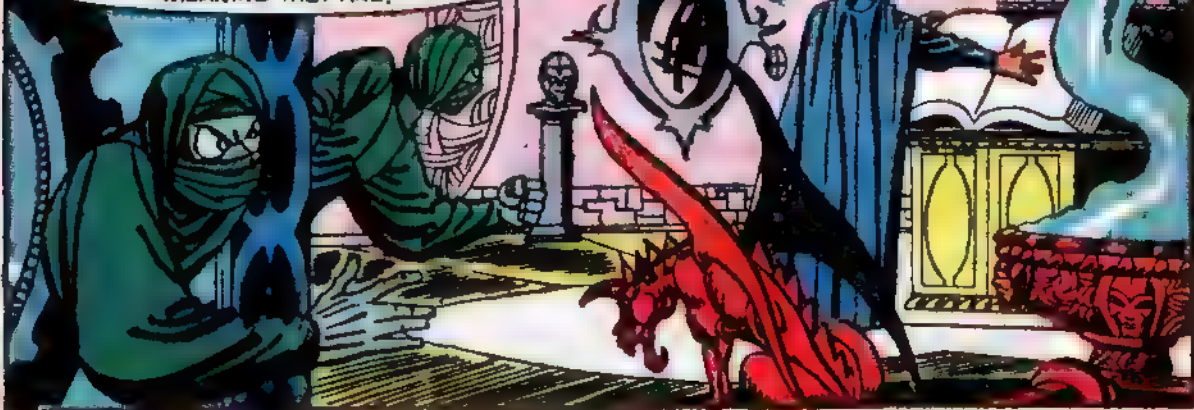
HOW TRIUMPHANT WE ARE THAT  
**GEO. BELL**  
INKED THESE PRICELESS PANELS!

HOW ECSTATIC WE ARE THAT  
**ART SIMEK**  
LETTERED THESE DEATHLESS PHRASES!



OUR ESOTERIC EPIC OPENS IN THE SILENT RETREAT OF MR. STRANGE! DEEP IN THOUGHT AS HE STUDIES THE LONG-LOST WRITINGS OF THE OMNIPOTENT OSHTUR, HE FAILS TO NOTICE THE THREE MENACING FIGURES WHO NOISELESSLY APPROACH HIM...

EACH DAY THE SUPERNATURAL SPELLS OF OSHTUR BECOME CLEARER TO ME! NOW FROUGHT WITH MEANING THEY ARE!

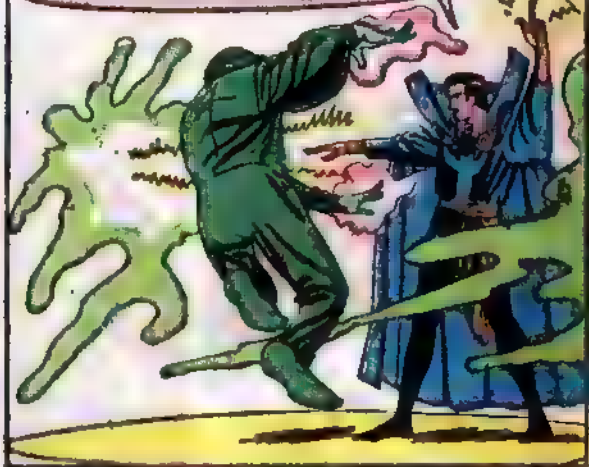


BUT, SUDDENLY, GUIDED BY SOME SUBTLE INSTINCT, THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS SUDDENLY TURNS...

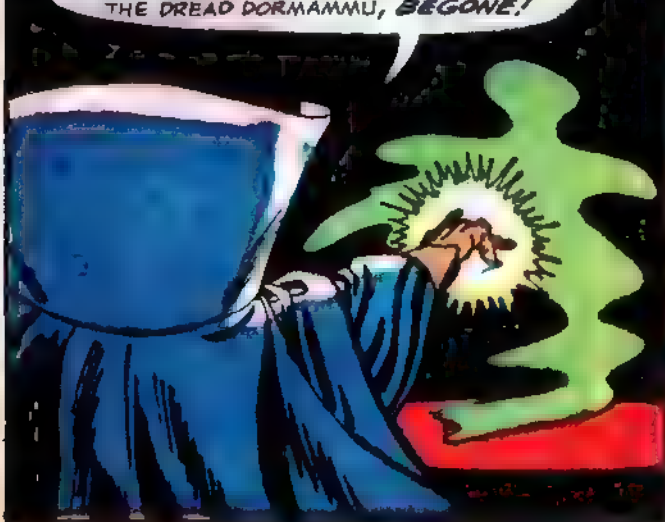
I SENSE SOMETHING BEHIND ME-- A SUDDEN DANGER!



THREE FOLLOWERS OF THE EVIL MORDO! YOU DARE ATTACK ME HERE?? HERE, WHERE MY POWER IS STRONGEST!! WHERE MY MYSTIC DEFENSES ARE IMPREGNABLE!!



BACK! BACK TO THE SHADOWY REACHES WHERE MORDO DWELLS! IN THE NAME OF THE DREAD DORMAMMU, BEGONE!



MORDO MUST HAVE KNOWN HIS THREE DISCIPLES WOULD BE POWERLESS AGAINST ME! AND YET HE DISPATCHED THEM!



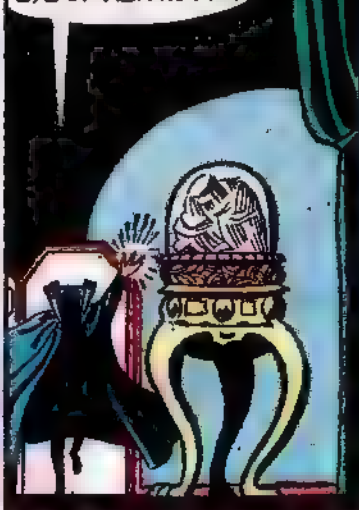
THERE WAS SOME PURPOSE TO HIS ATTACK! I MUST LEARN WHAT IT WAS!



TO SOLVE THIS EERIE ENIGMA,  
I SHALL NEED HELP! I MUST  
ENTER MY CHAMBER  
OF SHADOWS...



...WHERE STANDS  
THE ALL-SEEING  
EYE OF AGAMOTTO!



AT A GESTURE FROM DR. STRANGE,  
THE MYSTIC GLOBE WHICH STANDS  
BEFORE HIM IN THE GLOOM  
SUDDENLY BURSTS INTO DAZZLING  
LIGHT, REVEALING THE CONTOURS  
OF EVERY LAND MASS TO BE FOUND  
ON EARTH!

NOW, I MUST SEEK  
THE DANGER AREA--



THERE IT IS! THE GLEAMING  
BLUE BEAM! BUT--IT APPEARS  
OVER TIBET--NEAR THE SANCTU-  
ARY OF MY MASTER--THE  
ANCIENT ONE!

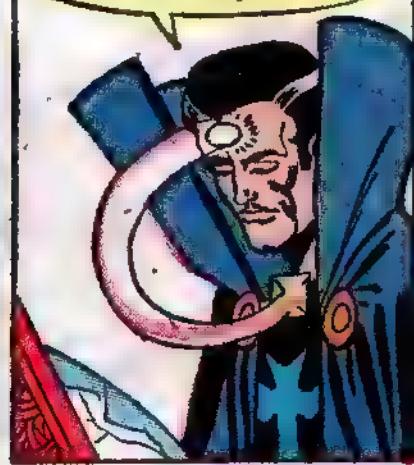
I MUST  
CONTACT  
HIM AT  
ONCE!



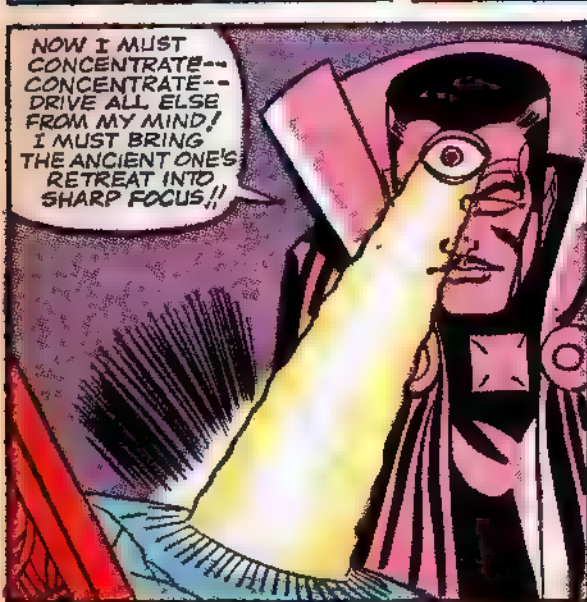
TRY AS I MAY--I RECEIVE  
NO MENTAL EMANATIONS  
FROM MY VENERABLE  
MENTOR! I CANNOT REACH  
HIM WITH MY THOUGHTS!!



THEREFORE, LET THE POWER  
OF MY ENCHANTED AMULET  
ENTER MY BRAIN! AND, THUS  
ARMED, I SHALL ACHIEVE  
MY AIM!



NOW I MUST  
CONCENTRATE--  
CONCENTRATE--  
DRIVE ALL ELSE  
FROM MY MIND!  
I MUST BRING  
THE ANCIENT ONE'S  
RETREAT INTO  
SHARP FOCUS!!

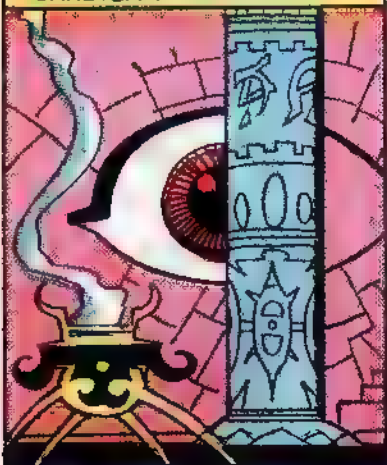


I'VE DONE IT! BUT  
THERE IS MORE TO  
DO! I MUST STILL  
PEER BEHIND THE  
CONCEALING WALLS--!

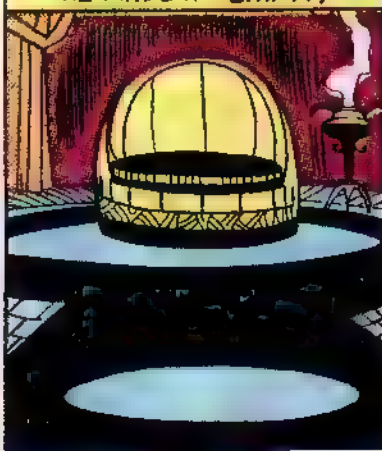




SLOWLY, THE WALLS SEEM TO MELT AWAY AS DR. STRANGE'S ENCHANTED AMULET BRINGS THE INTERIOR OF THE HIDDEN SANCTUARY INTO VIEW...

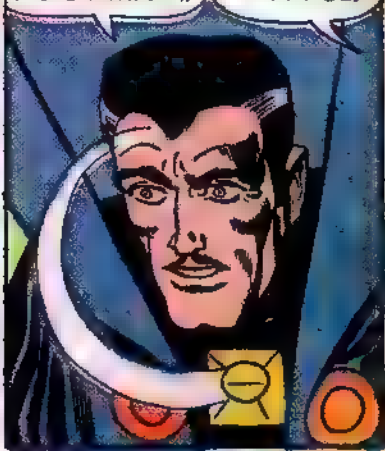


BUT, WHEN THE MASTER OF BLACK MAGIC FINALLY REACHES HIS OBJECTIVE, THE UNIQUE CHAIR WHICH STANDS IN THE CENTER OF THE CHAMBER, HE FINDS IT--EMPTY!



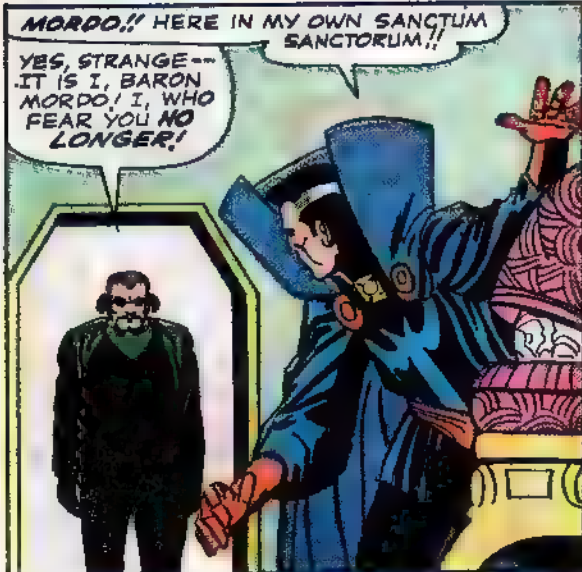
THE ANCIENT ONE IS GONE!! BUT THAT CAN NOT BE!! HE NEVER LEAVES HIS CHAMBER!!

NEVER-- UNTIL NOW!! FOR I HAVE CHANGED THINGS, STRANGE!



MORDO!! HERE IN MY OWN SANCTUM SANCTORUM!!

YES, STRANGE-- IT IS I, BARON MORDO, I, WHO FEAR YOU NO LONGER!



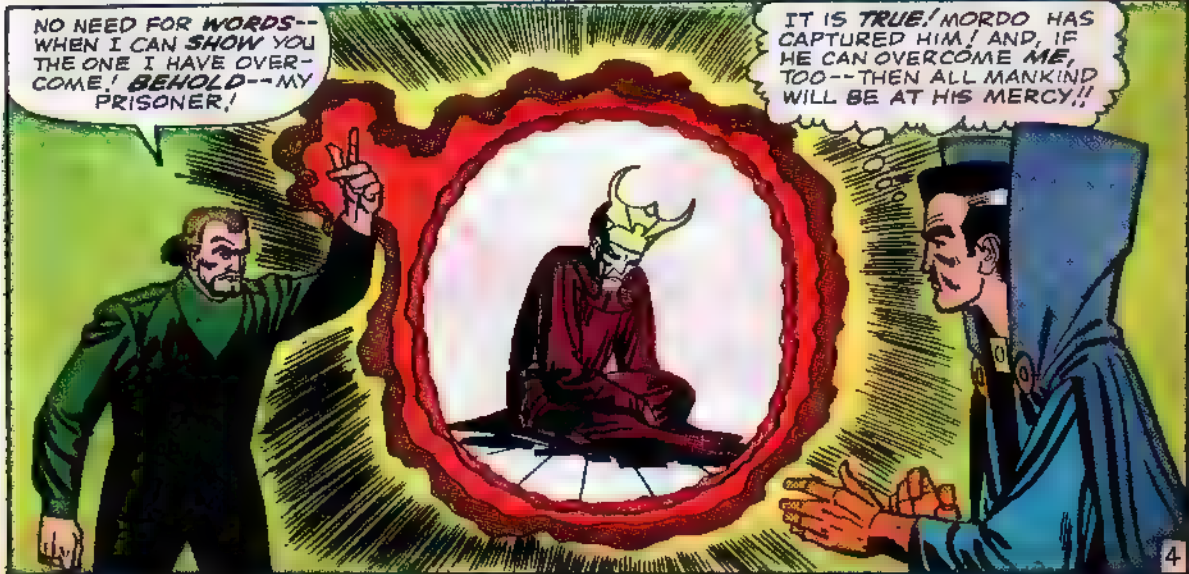
FOR I HAVE CAPTURED THE ANCIENT ONE, HE IS IN A PLACE WHERE HE CAN HELP YOU NO MORE! AND, WITHOUT HIS AID, YOUR POWER CAN NEVER MATCH MINE!

I CARE NOT FOR MY OWN SAFETY! BUT, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THE MASTER?? SPEAK, EVIL ONE!!



NO NEED FOR WORDS-- WHEN I CAN SHOW YOU THE ONE I HAVE OVERCOME! BEHOLD--MY PRISONER!

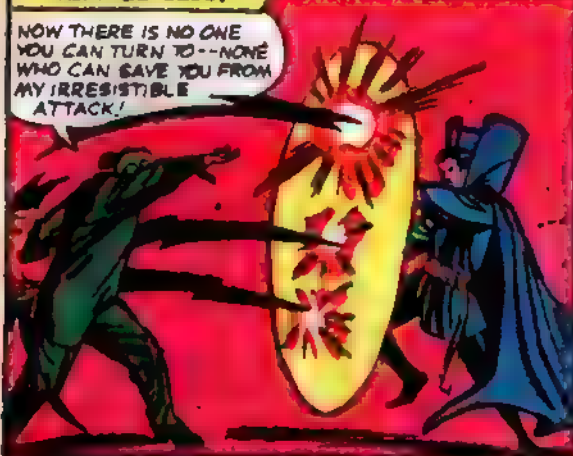
IT IS TRUE! MORDO HAS CAPTURED HIM! AND, IF HE CAN OVERCOME ME, TOO--THEN ALL MANKIND WILL BE AT HIS MERCY!!



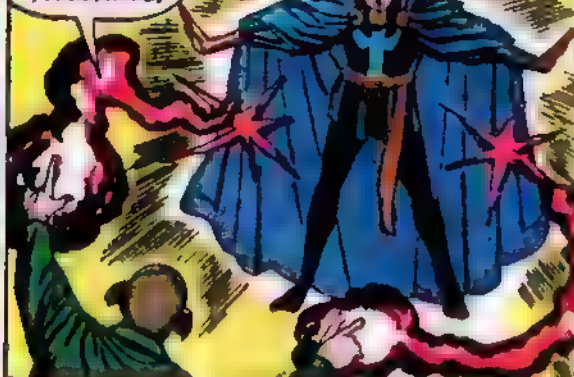


THEN, WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD, ANXIOUS TO HURL ALL HIS DARK AND DIABOLICAL POWER AGAINST HIS ETERNAL ENEMY, MORDO STRANGE! BUT, ALTHOUGH ON THE DEFENSIVE, DR. STRANGE HIMSELF IS FAR FROM HELPLESS!

NOW THERE IS NO ONE YOU CAN TURN TO--NONE WHO CAN SAVE YOU FROM MY IRRESISTIBLE ATTACK!



HAH! SEE HOW EASILY I CAUSE YOUR PUNY DEFENSES TO CRUMBLE! THE ADVANTAGE IS MINE-- FOR I WILL STOP AT NOTHING!



GO! NOW YOU TRY TO FLEE!

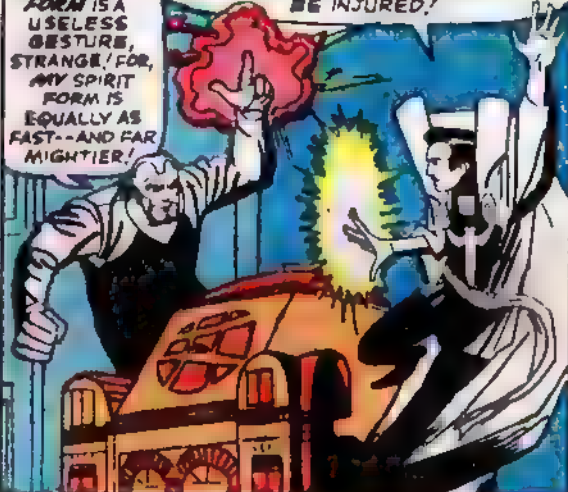
BUT, REMEMBER-- THERE IS NO PLACE ON EARTH-- NOR ABOVE OR BELOW-- THAT YOU CAN ESCAPE TO WHERE I CANNOT EFFORTLESSLY FOLLOW!

THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, EVIL ONE!

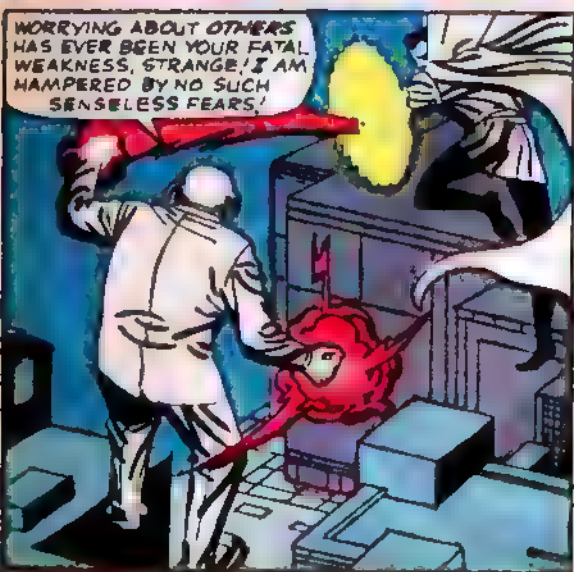


CHANGING TO YOUR **BEYOND-PLASMIC** FORM IS A USELESS GESTURE, STRANGE! FOR, MY SPIRIT FORM IS EQUALLY AS FAST-- AND FAR MIGHTIER!

PERHAPS! BUT, BY FORCING YOU TO FIGHT IN THIS MANNER I SEE TO IT THAT NO INNOCENT HUMANS WILL BE INJURED!

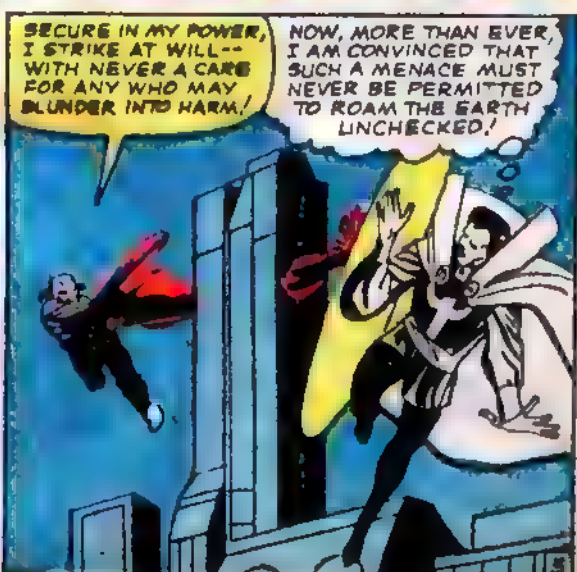


WORRYING ABOUT OTHERS HAS EVER BEEN YOUR FATAL WEAKNESS, STRANGE! I AM HAMPERED BY NO SUCH SENSELESS FEARS!



SECURE IN MY POWER, I STRIKE AT WILL-- WITH NEVER A CARE FOR ANY WHO MAY BLUNDER INTO HARM!

NOW, MORE THAN EVER, I AM CONVINCED THAT SUCH A MENACE MUST NEVER BE PERMITTED TO ROAM THE EARTH UNCHECKED!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



**No Sweat! No Strain! No Exhaustion!**  
**Only 60 seconds a day with**  
**scientifically developed**  
**ISOMETRIC EXERCISER can**  
**put you in tip-top physical shape!**

**30 DAY GUARANTEE!**  
 If you don't feel 100% better physically after using the Isometric Exerciser one minute a day for 30 days, return it to us and your money will be refunded!

ISOMETRIC EXERCISER is the easy way to help you increase your strength, eliminate flabbiness, develop a trimmer waist, healthy and toned muscles and a generally refreshing headful outlook on life. Gone are the days of costly gym fees, hours of exhausting push ups, straining knee bends, danger of pulled muscles, spending precious hours away from family and friends. Whether you're seventeen or seventy, male or female, you'll find that 60 seconds a day spent with your ever-ready Isometric Exerciser will give you far more beneficial results than even hours of strenuous exercise. The principle of Isometric—muscular force for only a few seconds against an immovable object—has been scientifically proven to develop a muscle to the maximum it can grow in a single day. Use the Isometric Exerciser before you leave in the morning for office or school. You don't have to disrobe, don't even have to remove your jacket. If you're just too tired to do ANYTHING, your one minute a day with the Exerciser will definitely "perk" you up. Make you feel invigorated and relaxed. If you participate in sports you'll find that your game will improve. Even if the extent of your sports is studying, you'll find you'll enjoy it more when you feel physically fit.



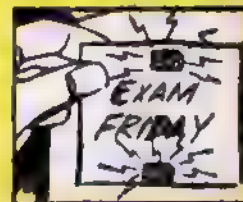
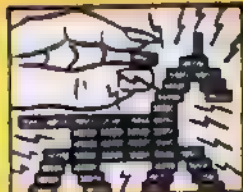
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**Work or Play!**



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Please rush me **FREE** packet of coins and money — together with \$100,000 replica Confederate money — lists of popular coins available — and other interesting offers on approval. Enclosed is 10¢ to cover shipping.

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**Also**  
**FREE**  
**\$100,000**  
**CONFEDERATE**  
**BILL**  
 This is a set of actual replica in source — money — open while the money is...



# THE MESSAGE

**SOME** people relax in strange ways. Bill Benson had its own formula for off-hour peace and pleasure. Bill liked to go down to the docks and sit and stare at the ocean. It was just as simple as that.

Bill was employed at the Bay-shore Foundry. He worked there because the pay was good and he had to support his elderly parents, but he hated every minute of it. The plant was a beehive of noise and activity. It was the unceasing drone of huge machinery that sapped Bill's stamina more than the constant hustle and bustle. That's why he was always so thankful when Fridays rolled around. For the week end spelled that special form of escape for him.

He liked to sit on the wharves and watch the waves wash ashore. He liked to trail his toes in the cool water and count the combers in the distance. He was soothed by the slapping sound of the sea against the piers and the shrill call of the gulls as they swooped over the surf. He enjoyed the fresh salty smell of the air.

Here, he was happy. He hoped that someday he'd find a way to combine his love for the sea with his form of employment. If only he wouldn't have to work at the foundry . . .

His thoughts were interrupted by the sight of a bottle bobbing up and down with the motion of the waves. "Looks like a piece of paper inside," Bill mumbled

to himself. "Maybe it's some kind of SOS."

He smiled at the range of his imagination. Nevertheless, he kept his eyes focused on the bottle until it came close. Curiosity claimed him. He rolled up his trousers, waded out in the shallow surf and picked up the bottle. Bill removed the stopper, extracted the damp note and examined it closely.

"Why, it is a help call!" he breathed excitedly. His eyes raced over the contents of the crude message:

PLEASE HELP ME. I WAS SHANGHAIED ON FREIGHTER, ALBATROSS. HELD PRISONER FROM MARSEILLES TO MANHATTAN. UNDER GUARD IN A COAL SHED NEAR PIER 27. I'M NOT RICH, CAN'T OFFER REWARD. NEED HELP BY NOON SATURDAY OR IT'LL BE TOO LATE. HURRY!

Bill puzzled over the note for a few moments. It was crudely printed with a crayon on rough wrapping paper and it was unsigned. The man was being held prisoner, yet he had found free time to write a lengthy letter for help without being detected. He had also managed to place the note in a tightly-corked bottle and waft it on the waves. It was strange to say the least.

His first impulse was to rush headlong to help, but then he checked himself. It might be dangerous. He didn't even know

the person involved. Why should he risk it?

But Bill's sense of fair play overcame his caution. He crossed the pier to the wooden walk that spanned the waterfront. He acted casually unconcerned as he neared the coal shed on pier 27. Nobody was about, so Bill boldly opened the door and plunged into the dark interior. He found a small room at the rear of the shed . . . empty!

There were, however, signs of a struggle. A chair was splintered, a table overturned and a canvas cot collapsed. There were some strips of toweling on the floor next to an empty flour sack.

He must have put up quite a fight, Bill thought. That toweling was probably used to bind and gag him, and they must have put that sack over his head so that he wouldn't be able to identify anybody. How can I help that poor fellow? Perhaps he left some clue . . .

After a careful search, Bill finally found a note inside the pillow case on the cot. It was written in the same hand as the first one and its appeal was equally urgent.

THIS MAY BE THE END! THEY'RE TAKING ME OUT TO THE DOLPHIN IN THE BAY. PRIVATE YACHT, PROBABLY WELL-GUARDED. PLEASE HELP!

Bill decided there was little time to lose. He ran to the

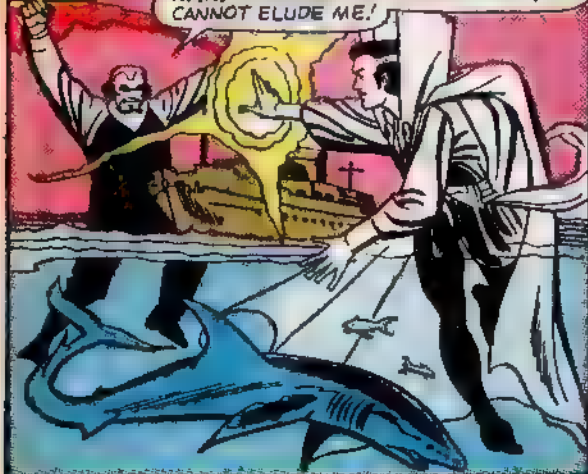
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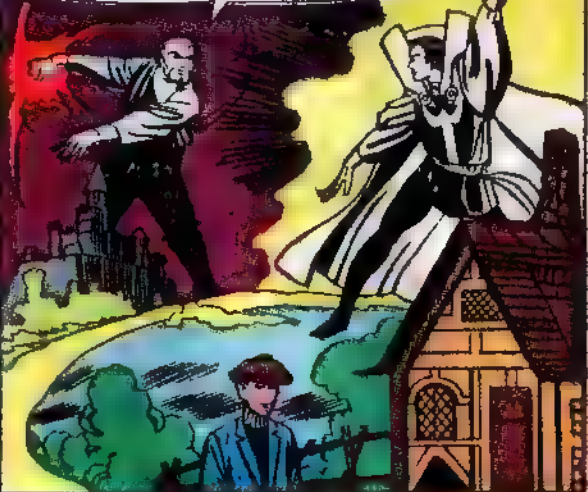


TO THOSE ADEPT IN THE MYSTIC ARTS, TIME AND SPACE ARE MEANINGLESS WHEN THEY ARE IN THEIR ECTOPLASMIC FORM! WITHIN SECONDS, DR. STRANGE CHANGES THE SCENE OF BATTLE TO THE VAST OCEAN AREA...



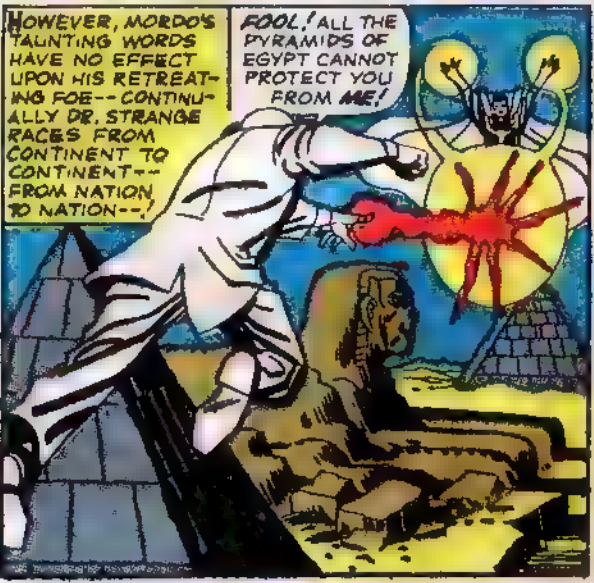
HAH! WHETHER ON LAND OR SEA, YOU CANNOT ELUDE ME!

AND FLEEING TO THE CALM COUNTRYSIDE OF ENGLAND IS A USELESS MANEUVER! I EXPECTED MORE OF YOU, STRANGE!



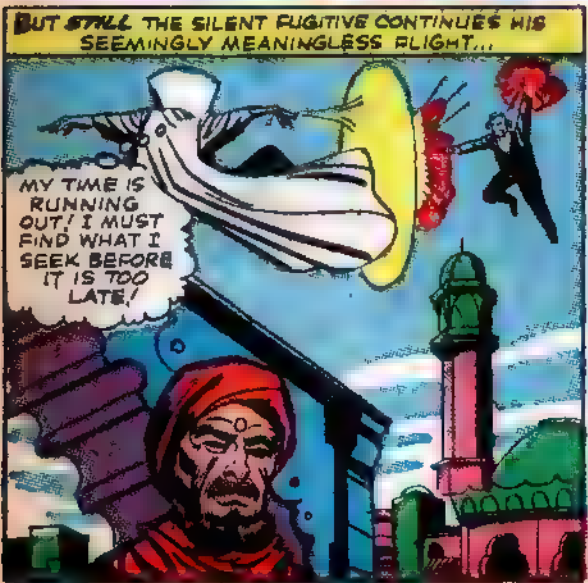
BUT STILL YOU RUN! WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?? ALL YOU DO IS WEARY YOURSELF! HAVE YOU PANICKED SO QUICKLY??

IS THAT BLIND FEAR WHICH I SEE IN YOUR EYES??!



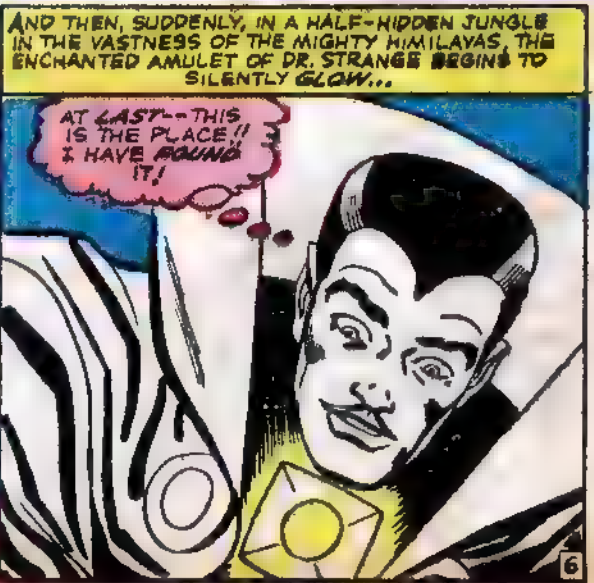
HOWEVER, MORDO'S TAUNTING WORDS HAVE NO EFFECT UPON HIS RETREATING FOE-- CONTINUALLY DR. STRANGE RACES FROM CONTINENT TO CONTINENT-- FROM NATION TO NATION--!

FOOL! ALL THE PYRAMIDS OF EGYPT CANNOT PROTECT YOU FROM ME!



BUT STILL THE SILENT FUGITIVE CONTINUES HIS SEEMINGLY MEANINGLESS FLIGHT...

MY TIME IS RUNNING OUT! I MUST FIND WHAT I SEEK BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!



AT LAST-- THIS IS THE PLACE!! I HAVE FOUND IT!



SO! YOU WERE NOT FLEEING ME IN HAPLESS FEAR!! YOU WERE STALLING FOR TIME, UNTIL YOU COULD LOCATE THIS SPOT!! BUT, YOU SHALL FIND IT WAS ALL IN VAIN!

I MUST DESCEND!  
MY GOAL  
IS  
DIRECTLY  
BELOW!

NOW, MORDO--NOW! WE SHALL SEE IF YOU ARE AS POWERFUL AS YOU CLAIM! FOR, AT LAST I HAVE FOUND YOUR HIDDEN HAVEN! AND WITHIN IT MUST BE YOUR CAPTIVE!

I WAS RIGHT!! I HAVE FOUND THE ANCIENT ONE! BUT MORDO HAS HIM IMPRISONED WITHIN THE CRIMSON CIRCLE OF CYTTORAK!!

DO NOT DESPAIR, VENERABLE MASTER! I SWEAR BY THE TWELVE MOONS OF MUNNOPEER THAT MORDO SHALL NOT PREVAIL!!

YOU MAKE YOUR PLEDGES TOO LIGHTLY, STRANGE! YOU ARE WITHIN MY HAVEN--FACING ME AT THE HEIGHT OF MY POWER--WITH NO PLACE LEFT TO RUN! YOUR PLIGHT IS HOPELESS!

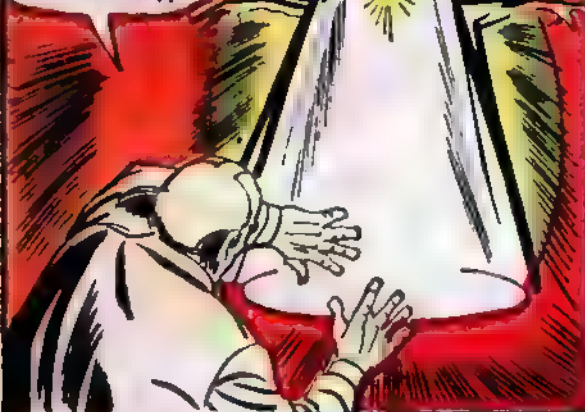
I DID NOT RUN IN FEAR OF YOU, MORDO! I MERELY PLAYED FOR TIME, UNTIL I COULD FIND THE ANCIENT ONE! BUT NOW--I RUN NO MORE!

NOW, BY ALL THE POWERS OF THE ETERNAL VISHANT! I SHALL HURL YOUR TAUNTS BACK INTO YOUR TEETH--I SHALL FREE THE ONE YOU DARED TO MAKE YOUR PRISONER!!



NEVER!! HE CAN NEVER BE FREE UNTIL I HAVE BEEN VANQUISHED!! AND YOU HAVE NOT THE POWER TO-- WAIT!! WHAT IS THAT??

IT IS THE SURGING AWESOME ENERGY OF MY AMULET-- GROWING EVER BRIGHTER-- EVER STRONGER--

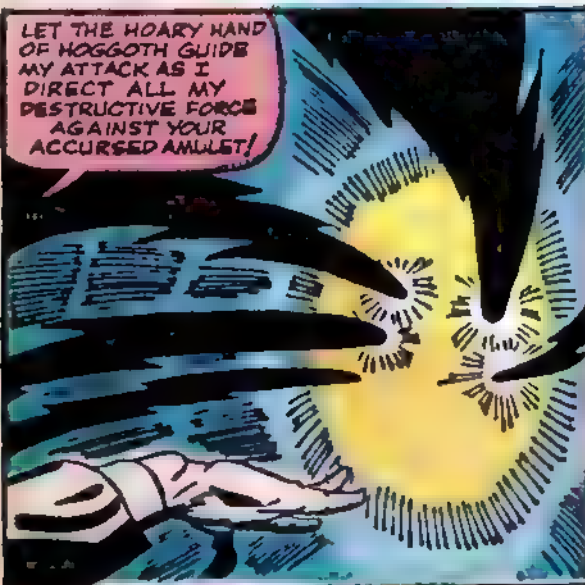


--UNTIL IT REACHES THE PEAK OF ITS POWER AND DEFEATS YOU WITH ITS UNBEARABLE INTENSITY!!

NEVER!! MY DARK POWERS SHALL OVERCOME YOUR BRIGHT ONES! I CALL UPON THE VAPERS OF VALDORR TO DESTROY YOU!!

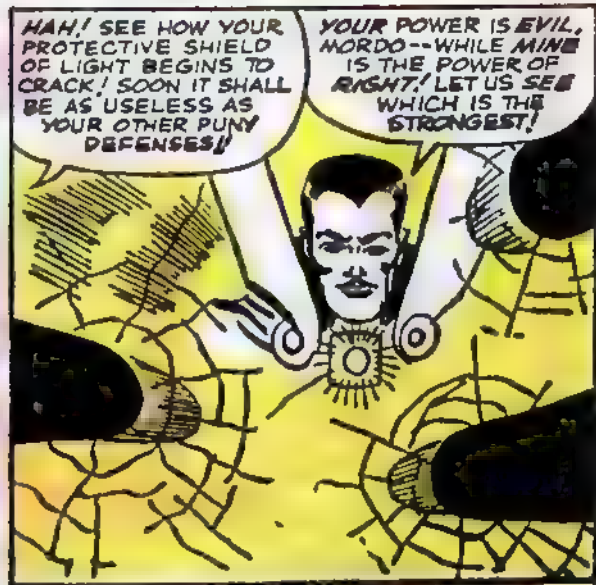


LET THE HOARY HAND OF HOGGOTH GUIDE MY ATTACK AS I DIRECT ALL MY DESTRUCTIVE FORCE AGAINST YOUR ACCURSED AMULET!

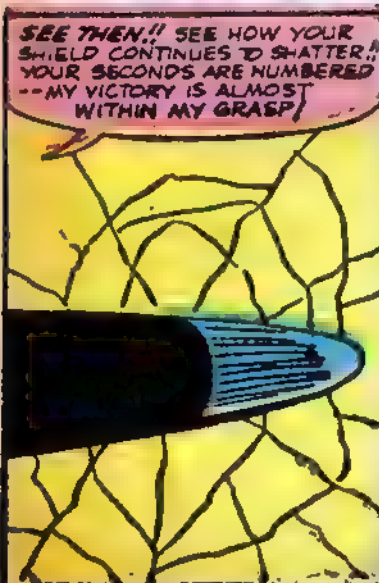


HAH! SEE HOW YOUR PROTECTIVE SHIELD OF LIGHT BEGINS TO CRACK! SOON IT SHALL BE AS USELESS AS YOUR OTHER PUNY DEFENSES!!

YOUR POWER IS EVIL, MORDO--WHILE MINE IS THE POWER OF RIGHT! LET US SEE WHICH IS THE STRONGEST!



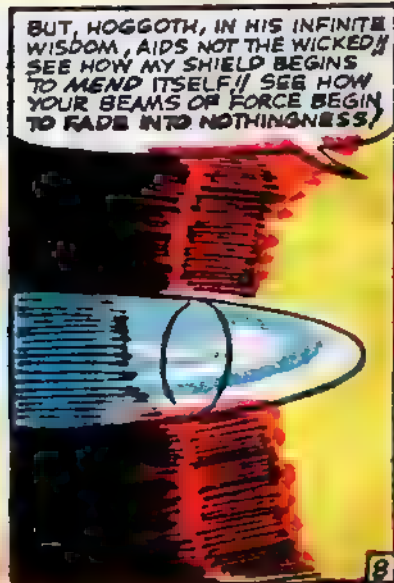
SEE THEN!! SEE HOW YOUR SHIELD CONTINUES TO SHATTER!! YOUR SECONDS ARE NUMBERED--MY VICTORY IS ALMOST WITHIN MY GRASP!



NOT SO, MORDO! FOR YOU HAVE MADE ONE IRREVOCABLE ERROR! YOU DARED CALL UPON THE HOARY HAND OF HOGGOTH TO HELP YOU--



BUT, HOGGOTH, IN HIS INFINITE WISDOM, AIDS NOT THE WICKED!! SEE HOW MY SHIELD BEGINS TO MEND ITSELF!! SEE HOW YOUR BEAMS OF FORCE BEGIN TO FADE INTO NOTHINGNESS!

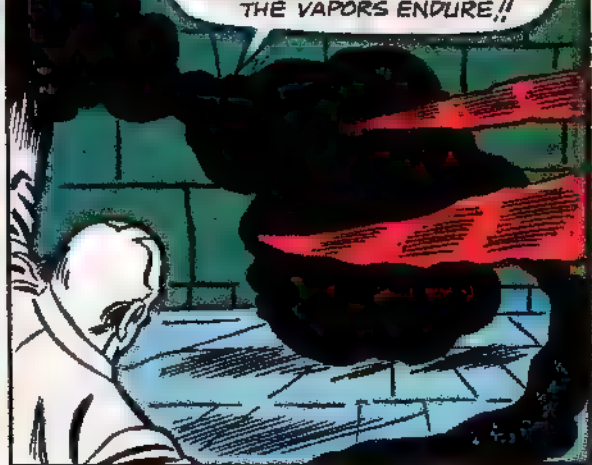




DO YOU SUPPOSE I HAVE ONLY ONE FORM OF ATTACK?? SEE HOW I CAN BLOT OUT THE VERY LIGHT OF YOUR SHIELD WITH MY DARK VAPORS OF VALTORR!!



THERE!! NOW, THOUGH YOU REMAIN SAFE WITHIN YOUR SHIELD, YOU ARE ALSO HELPLESS!! YOU ARE NOW MY PRISONER FOR AS LONG AS THE VAPORS ENDURE!!



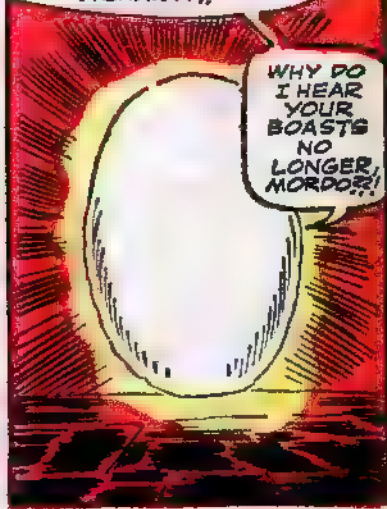
AND, AS YOU KNOW FULL WELL-- MY POWERS ARE EVER-LASTING!! THEY WILL NEVER FADE!



YES--THEY ARE EVER-LASTING--UNLESS THEY SHOULD BE BUFFETED BY A STRONGER POWER--



--SUCH AS THE BLINDING LIGHT OF THE ETERNAL VISHANTI!!



WHY DO I HEAR YOUR BOASTS NO LONGER, MORDO??

IS THERE NO LIMIT TO HIS SPELLS?? I MUST HAVE TIME TO THINK-- TO PLAN!

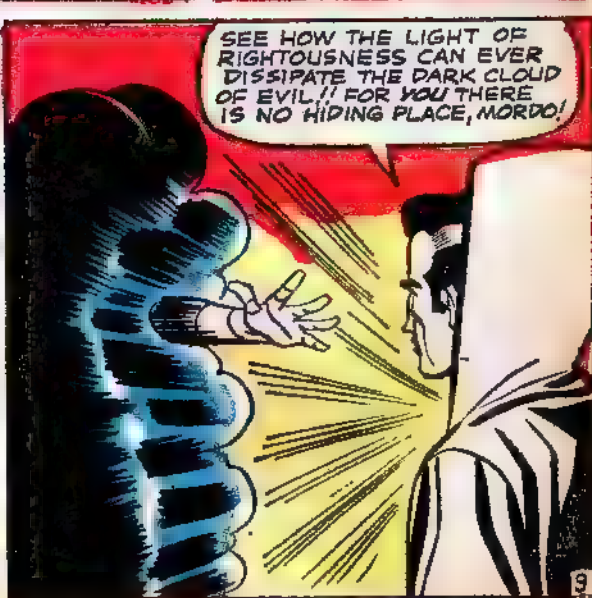


I'LL WRAP MYSELF IN A PROTECTIVE CLOAK OF DARKNESS!

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HIDE FROM THE EYE OF MY AMULET, MORDO??



SEE HOW THE LIGHT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS CAN EVER DISSIPATE THE DARK CLOUD OF EVIL!! FOR YOU THERE IS NO HIDING PLACE, MORDO!





WITHIN SECONDS, THE CLOAK OF DARKNESS IS GONE, AND MORDO STANDS ALONE AND UNPROTECTED BEFORE HIS AVENGING ARCH-ENEMY!

THE AMULET'S LIGHT--IT'S LIKE A LIVING THING--LIKE A CRUSHING, POWERFUL FORCE WHICH ATTACKS ME--WHICH DRIVES ME HELPLESSLY BEFORE IT!



AWAY!! TAKE IT AWAY!! I CANNOT BEAR IT! IT SEEMS TO PERMEATE MY ENTIRE BEING--TO PENETRATE THE VERY CORE OF MY INNER SELF!

I SHALL TAKE IT AWAY--AFTER YOU HAVE FREED THE ANCIENT ONE!



A BRIEF MOMENT LATER...

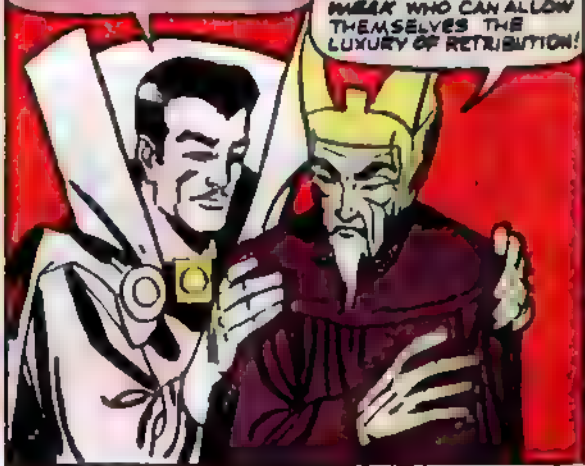
TAKE MY HAND, MASTER! THERE IS NOTHING MORE TO FEAR!

YOU HAVE BROUGHT GREAT HONOR TO THE AGED ONE--YOU HAVE PROVEN YOURSELF WORTHY OF YOUR GREAT TRUST!



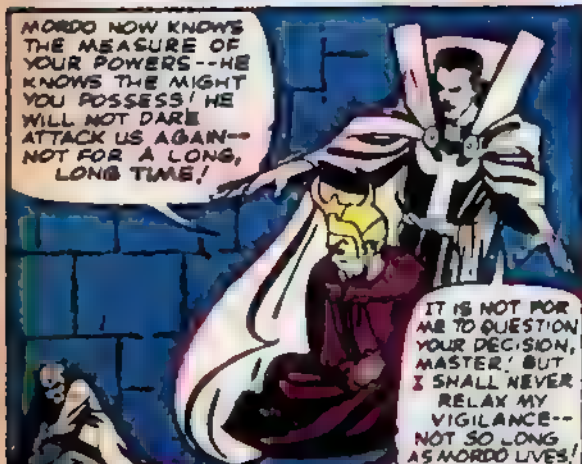
AND WHAT OF MORDO, MASTER? HE HAS COMMITTED THE UNPARDONABLE OFFENSE OF ATTACKING YOUR INVOLABLE PERSON!

REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGE, MY SON! WITH OUR GREAT POWER, WE MUST NEVER KNOWINGLY CAUSE HARM TO ANY! IT IS ONLY THE MEEK WHO CAN ALLOW THEMSELVES THE LUXURY OF RETRIBUTION!



MORDO NOW KNOWS THE MEASURE OF YOUR POWERS--HE KNOWS THE MIGHT YOU POSSESS! HE WILL NOT DARE ATTACK US AGAIN--NOT FOR A LONG, LONG TIME!

IT IS NOT FOR ME TO QUESTION YOUR DECISION, MASTER! BUT I SHALL NEVER RELAX MY VIGILANCE--NOT SO LONG AS MORDO LIVES!



AND SO, THE MASTER OF BLACK MAGIC, AND HIS VENERABLE MENTOR DEPART, AS A HUSH FALLS OVER THE DESOLATE HALF-HIDDEN AREA! NAUGHT REMAINS TO MARK THE MYSTIC BATTLE THAT HAS BEEN FOUGHT--NAUGHT SAVE A WISPY MEMORY WHICH EVEN NOW FADES INTO THE SHADY NOTHINGNESS FROM WHENCE IT CAME!



NOTE: DR. STRANGE IS CURRENTLY GUEST-STARRING IN THOR #100--A TALE WHICH FANS OF THE SUPERNATURAL WILL NOT WANT TO MISS! AND WE PROMISE BY THE SEVEN RINGS OF RAGNAROK THAT HE WILL AGAIN APPEAR IN THE NEXT 15th OF STRANGE SIZES! SO, TILL WE MEET AGAIN, MAY THE INNER EYE OF THE ENCHANTED AMULET EVER WATCH OVER YOU!



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You don't need a formal education or previous experience to master auto mechanics. You can learn at home by devoting a few hours each evening and week-end to training. CTI, one of America's foremost auto training schools, will send lessons that are easy to read and understand. You'll receive tools and instruments, as well as shop projects, to help you gain experience as you learn. You keep your present job and switch to your new occupation when you are ready.

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CTI lessons are written in simple English and fully illustrated. Thousands have learned auto mechanics through lessons alone. To make it still easier to offer "lesson learning" to actual auto repairing, and to build your confidence, CTI provides each student with 30 Job Experience Projects. This practical instruction will encourage you to begin repairing cars as you train, and earn money in spare time. It will help you get experience.

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"Have started my own tune-up and brake shop."—C. Gutz, Cal. "Am proud I finished course. Have two job offers."—Barton Vance, Ind. "Am working as a mechanic and earn twice what I used to. Made \$25 a week as I trained."—Jerome Slowik, Ill. "Am now a senior auto mechanic. Made \$800 during training."—Ronald Wharton, Ind.

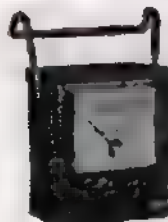
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**TORQUE**  
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# THE MESSAGE

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Bill puzzled over the note for a few moments. It was crudely printed with a crayon on rough wrapping paper and it was unsigned. The man was being held prisoner, yet he had found free time to write a lengthy letter for help without being detected. He had also managed to place the note in a tightly-corked bottle and waft it on the waves. It was strange to say the least.

His first impulse was to rush headlong to help, but then he checked himself. It might be dangerous. He didn't even know

the person involved. Why should he risk it?

But Bill's sense of fair play overcame his caution. He crossed the pier to the wooden walk that spanned the waterfront. He acted casually unconcerned as he neared the coal shed on pier 27. Nobody was about, so Bill boldly opened the door and plunged into the dark interior. He found a small room at the rear of the shed . . . empty!

There were, however, signs of a struggle. A chair was splintered, a table overturned and a canvas cot collapsed. There were some strips of toweling on the floor next to an empty flour sack.

He must have put up quite a fight, Bill thought. That toweling was probably used to bind and gag him, and they must have put that sack over his head so that he wouldn't be able to identify anybody. How can I help that poor fellow? Perhaps he left some clue . . .

After a careful search, Bill finally found a note inside the pillow case on the cot. It was written in the same hand as the first one and its appeal was equally urgent.

THIS MAY BE THE END! THEY'RE TAKING ME OUT TO THE DOLPHIN IN THE BAY. PRIVATE YACHT, PROBABLY WELL-GUARDED. PLEASE HELP!

Bill decided there was little time to lose. He ran to the

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY



end of the pier where he spotted a rowboat. He leaped in and began to row furiously toward the sleek craft anchored in the bay. Within ten minutes, Bill tied up to the yacht. There was nobody patrolling, so he quickly climbed the Jacob's Ladder to the deck and then headed for the companionway that led to the cabins below.

As he turned the corridor, three men pounced on him. There was a brief scuffle, but Bill was no match for three burly sailors who pinioned his arms and marched him into a luxurious cabin. An old man sat behind the desk. He had a short, dark beard and a ruthless look.

"So you walked right into the trap, my foolhardy fellow," he grated. "Did you think I had no guards or that you could overcome them all by yourself? Don't you care about saving your own skin or calculating the odds against you?"

Bill felt the rage boiling up within him. "All right, you've got me, but you don't scare me. You're a coward keeping a man prisoner because you're afraid he'll expose your racket . . . whatever it is. Why should I

waste time worrying about the odds against me when a man's life is at stake? I'm not worried now either," Bill bluffed boldly, "because I contacted the police before I came out here. I suggest you release us both now and save yourself some trouble."

"Slick strategy," the bearded man applauded, "but it won't work. You *should have* contacted the police, but you didn't. I've been following you with these field glasses ever since you picked up the bottle. And there's no phone in the coal shed. You followed *my* instruction perfectly."

"Your instructions?" Bill asked bewilderedly. "You mean, you order your prisoner to write the notes? But why?"

"I guess there's no further need for deception," the man smiled sympathetically. "First, men, release him!"

"Actually, I'm the prisoner who wrote the notes! I'm also the owner of the freighter *ALBATROSS* and the *DOLPHIN*. I also own the J. B. White Steamship Line. I needed a good man to run my dock office. I wanted a man who loved the sea, a man with courage, imag-

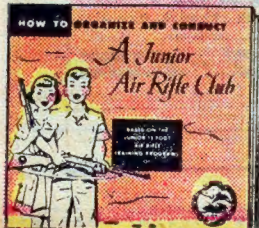
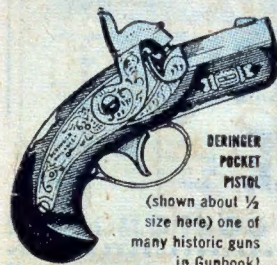
ination and a sense of fair play. I've watched you many week ends and wondered if you were the man for the job. I decided to test you.

"We had the notes prepared for you and it was quite a trick to get that bottle bobbing near you. If you lacked courage or decency, you'd never have gone to the coal shed. If you lacked the interest or ingenuity, you'd never have found the second note we planted in the pillow case. As it stands, I congratulate you on your courage and your character. Could I persuade you to accept my offer and leave your current employment? I may be eccentric, but my employees stand by me."

"Could I accept your offer?" Bill echoed happily. "Don't test me any further, Mr. White. You can keep me prisoner down here from now on."

THE END H-729

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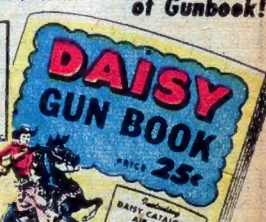
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